

PRIX EUROPA

6 – 11 October 2024, Berlin

public service media – sharing our stories



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PRIX EUROPA Trophy



‘Cabeza Del Azote Del Laberintico’
by Anthon Hoornweg

PRIX EUROPA Alliance



with the support
of Land Berlin



PRIX EUROPA President



Dear Colleagues from all over Europe!

PRIX EUROPA, along with its members and participants, stands as a staunch defender of public service values.

The essence of the PRIX EUROPA competition lies in our professional and creative dedication to sharing principles of Freedom, Independence, Diversity, and Respect with

all citizens. Our laureates are the strongest ambassadors of these shared values.

Each production, each piece of content allows for interaction, the exchange of ideas, and contributes to nourishing democratic life.

I congratulate the participants; it is important to take part in this event to demonstrate the richness, strength, and daily commitment of journalists to a quality and rigorous press. Keep up the great work and continue to inspire!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be 'JP Philippot', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jean-Paul Philippot

PRIX EUROPA President

Director General Radio-télévision belge de la Communauté française - RTBF

**PRIX
EUROPA**

6 – 11 October 2024, Berlin

public service media – sharing our stories

PRIX EUROPA Venue



Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg – rbb is hosting PRIX EUROPA 2024 at the historic Haus des Rundfunks, designed by architect Hans Poelzig, which was inaugurated in 1931 after two years of construction. It was one of the first purpose-built broadcasting buildings in Europe.

PRIX EUROPA Special Awards

PRIX EUROPA European Journalist of the Year

Each year since 2017 PRIX EUROPA honours a European Journalist who has gone outside her/his comfort zone and shown extraordinary creativity, courage and impact on her/his specific society or audience.

Previous award winners are:

2017 Can Dündar

2018 Laurent Richard

2019 Armin Wolf

2021 Katsiaryna Andreyeva, Darya Chultsova

2022 Galina Timchenko

2023 All 418 journalists working for the Ukrainian Public Service Broadcaster UA:PBC

PRIX EUROPA IRIS

Best European Media Project of the Year about Identity, Diversity and Inclusion

Awarded by a Special Jury composed of Diversity Experts.

This Special Award enjoys the Patronage of NTR – the Dutch Public Broadcaster.

PRIX EUROPA Student Award – Rising Star

Is open to students from European film- and media schools, universities and training institutions. It is looking for audio and video projects that show vision, distinct thought and public responsibility.

The Award winners are determined by Europe-wide online voting.

PRIX EUROPA Competition

This year 274 media organisations in Europe have submitted a total of 646 audio, digital media and video productions.

After a thorough pre-selection process 161 outstanding productions from 27 countries have been chosen to compete for the coveted PRIX EUROPA Awards as Best European Productions of the Year 2024.

From 7 to 10 October 2024 the 161 nominated programmes of this year's competition will be presented in 8 categories.

PRIX EUROPA distinguishes itself by its unique jury system. In each of the competition categories the adjudication lies in the hands of a Jury Group which undertakes to examine the entries together, to discuss them in public and then to assess them using a points system via a digital voting platform. Each nominated production is represented by a jury member. All Jury Members are obliged to vote for each entry. However, they are barred from voting for entries produced or submitted by their own organisation.

The PRIX EUROPA organisers appoint one or two Jury Group Coordinators for each Jury Group to lead the daily discussions. Each Jury Group Coordinator also has full voting rights.

PRIX EUROPA 2024

Audio Documentary Category

Awards

★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

Under the Patronage of BBC Audio.

Jury Group Coordinators

Vaida Pilibaitytė
LRT Radijas, Lithuania

Georgia Catt
British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC, United Kingdom

01	"What Makes You Think Somebody Will Come and Get Us?" ...	Austria
02	After the Funeral Procession	Belgium
03	Time Rewind – A Look Back at the Development of Nuclear Energy	Belgium
04	Forgive? Episode 1	Czech Republic
05	Ok, Boomer	Czech Republic
06	Kidnapped	Denmark
07	The Obsession: A War Story	Denmark
08	The Lost Calendar. What Happened to Sari?	Finland
09	"Haiti, a Vanishing Country"	France
10	Hang Out With The Dead	France
11	Dead Silence – My Father's Bomb Attack	Germany
12	There Is a Fireworks in Me. Jan – Portrait of a Friend	Germany
13	I'm Carrie Jade Williams!	Ireland
14	Coming Out	Lithuania
15	I'm a 'Kweekje'	The Netherlands
16	Where Is Sarah?	The Netherlands
17	Adam. The Mystery	Norway
18	Rave Cave	Norway
19	The Woman and The Monument	Poland
20	The Tunnel of Salvation	Slovenia
21	Noah's New Dads	Sweden
22	P3 Documentary: A Multimillion Fraud – The Man Who Answered a Nigerian Scam Letter	Sweden
23	Destination Oldistan – The Power of Dental Floss	Switzerland
24	Occupation Kitchen: What and How Ukrainians Ate in Occupied Territories?	Ukraine
25	"Am I Home?" – Life In A Dementia Village	United Kingdom
26	Assume Nothing; Femicide – A History of Control – Marion	United Kingdom
27	Degraded by Deepfakes	United Kingdom

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

Timetable

MONDAY 7 October

9:30		Jury Group Briefing		
10:00	02	After the Funeral Procession	Belgium	28 min
10:30	25	"Am I Home?" – Life In A Dementia Village	United Kingdom	28 min
11:00		Break		
11:30	07	The Obsession: A War Story	Denmark	67 min
12:40	23	Destination Oldistan – The Power of Dental Floss	Switzerland	30 min
13:10		Lunch		
14:00	17	Adam. The Mystery	Norway	26 min
14:30	12	There Is a Fireworks in Me. Jan – Portrait of a Friend	Germany	61 min
15:30		Break		
16:00		Start of Discussion		

TUESDAY 8 October

9:30	19	The Woman and The Monument	Poland	19 min
9:55	01	"What Makes You Think Somebody Will Come and ...?"	Austria	54 min
10:50		Break		
11:15	15	I'm a 'Kweekje'	The Netherlands	31 min
11:50	08	The Lost Calendar. What Happened to Sari?	Finland	42 min
12:30		Lunch		
13:30	18	Rave Cave	Norway	48 min
14:20	13	I'm Carrie Jade Williams!	Ireland	29 min
14:50		Break		
15:15	10	Hang Out With The Dead	France	35 min
16:00		Start of Discussion		

WEDNESDAY 9 October

9:30	22	P3 Documentary: A Multimillion Fraud – The Man Who ...	Sweden	43 min
10:15	04	Forgive? Episode 1	Czech Republic	33 min
10:50		Break		
11:15	26	Assume Nothing; Femicide - A History of Control – Marion	United Kingdom	23 min
11:40	03	Time Rewind – A Look Back at the Development of ...	Belgium	55 min
12:35		Lunch		
13:30	24	Occupation Kitchen: What and How Ukrainians Ate in ...	Ukraine	18 min
13:50	14	Coming Out	Lithuania	49 min
14:40		Break		
15:05	11	Dead Silence – My Father's Bomb Attack	Germany	30 min
15:45		Start of Discussion		

THURSDAY 10 October

9:30	09	"Haiti, a Vanishing Country"	France	47 min
10:20	20	The Tunnel of Salvation	Slovenia	44 min
11:05		Break		
11:30	27	Degraded by Deepfakes	United Kingdom	42 min
12:15	05	Ok, Boomer	Czech Republic	25 min
12:40		Lunch		
13:30	21	Noah's New Dads	Sweden	52 min
14:25	16	Where Is Sarah?	The Netherlands	26 min
14:50		Break		
15:15	06	Kidnapped	Denmark	32 min
16:00		Start of Discussion		

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

"WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SOMEBODY WILL COME AND GET US?" THE CONTROVERSIAL IMPRISONMENT OF THE IS FAMILY MEMBER MARIA G.

In 2014, 17-year-old Austrian Maria G. trades her sheltered life in rural Salzburg for an utterly uncertain one. She travels to Syria, marries an alleged IS fighter, and has two sons with him. Since 2019, she and her children have been imprisoned in a Kurdish-run camp in northeast Syria. Since then, her parents have been desperately seeking her official repatriation, but the relevant Austrian ministries won't comply. Meanwhile, Maria is 27 years old; her sons are 6 and 8 and have spent most of their lives in captivity. Without schooling, or family or sufficient health care. Other European countries have already repatriated mothers with their children – and held the mothers accountable in court. The documentary "Glaubt ihr wirklich, jemand wird uns hier rausholen"? Die umstrittene Gefangenschaft der IS-Angehörigen Maria G. tells the eventful story of Maria G. and her parents. And it explores the question: What to do with European jihadi-affiliated female extremists and family members of suspected IS militants stuck in detention camps in northeast Syria.

In late 2023, the attorney of Maria G. and her children, Doris Hawelka, lodged a complaint to the Federal Administrative Court against Foreign Ministry's decision not to repatriate the family. This provides a basis to examine this decision in a constitutional trial for the first time.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

01

"GLAUBT IHR WIRKLICH, JEMAND WIRD UNS HIER RAUSHOLEN?" ... AUSTRIA

Submitting organisation
Österreichischer Rundfunk – ORF

Contact
Eva Roither
eva.roither@orf.at

Author / Director Eva Roither
Sound Martin Leitner
Commissioning editor Elisabeth Stratka
Producer Elisabeth Stratka
Production company ORF Ö1

Length 54 min
Original language German
Published by Ö1
Date of publication 22 June 2024 at 09:05

02

NA DE ROUWSTOET
BELGIUM

AFTER THE FUNERAL PROCESSION

Submitting organisation

Vlaamse Radio- en Televisieomroep – VRT

Contact

Franky Audenaerde
franky.audenaerde@vrt.be

Author / Director Nona Van Braeckel

Sound Sander Lambrecht

Commissioning editor Bram Willems

Producer Ella Van Eynde

Production company VRT

Title of series After the Funeral Procession

Episode 1 of 4

Length 28 min

Original language Dutch

Published by VRT MAX

Date of publication 1 November 2023 at 06:00

Nona Van Braeckel lost her father when she was 16 years old. After the funeral procession everybody goes on with their lives, but Nona's world stopped turning. Time is standing still.

She decides to talk to other young people who had to go through this. How do they cope with a loss and grief so big? After the funeral, but more importantly: in all those endless years after.

They are young and one of their parents passes away. What goes on inside their head during times like that?

Can one really grasp that harsh reality? And how can you ever say goodbye to someone you love that much?

Nona never truly believed something like that could happen to her and her family.

From the moment her father was diagnosed with cancer until today, six years later, she relates her struggle to grasp reality, the immensely lonely and overwhelming days and weeks after the funeral and how she eventually found joy again.

Throughout the series she realises she is not alone. Unfortunately, many young people have had similar experiences. Through open-hearted conversations with her peers she finds recognition, consolation and hope. This documentary shows how grief is here to stay and how it becomes a part of you. But also how it eventually allows you to enjoy the little things in life again.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

TIME REWIND – A LOOK BACK AT THE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

The series takes listeners on a radio journey by exploring yesterday's archives to shed light on today's sensitive issues.

This episode revisits the archives on the development of the Belgian nuclear power sector. What happens when we explore the RTBF archives on this subject?

Listeners are immersed in the past, allowing them to discover how issues like enthusiasm for nuclear energy, nuclear accidents, and waste management were addressed at various times within a public media organisation that inevitably reflects the dominant thinking of its era. This is done almost without a voice-over. The archives interweave to remind us that today's issues have deep roots in our past.

The series primarily features audio archives from SONUMA (the national audiovisual archives centre for French-speaking Belgians) and delves into themes chosen for their relevance to current events, their sensitive nature, and their societal impact. The episodes are independent of each other and tackle different topics each time, such as the role of women, the development of nuclear energy, or our colonial past – issues that have a long history and still resonate and challenge our present time.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

03

TIME REWIND – RETOUR SUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE L'ÉNERGIE NUCLÉAIRE BELGIUM

Submitting organisation

Radio-télévision belge de la
Communauté française – RTBF

Contact

Pascale Tison
pat@rtbf.be

Author / Director / Producer Guillaume Istace
Sound Vincent Venet

Commissioning editor Pascale Tison

Production company Axolotl

Co-producers RTBF – La Première,
SONUMA Les archives audiovisuelles

Length 55 min

Original language French

Published by RTBF – La Première

Date of publication 25 June 2024 at 22:00

04

ODPUSTIT? DÍL 1.
CZECH REPUBLIC

FORGIVE? EPISODE 1

Submitting organisation
Český rozhlas – ČRo

Contact
Nikola Bartová
nikola.bartova@rozhlas.cz

Author Ridina Ahmedová
Director / Dramaturg / Producer
Veronika Ruppert
Sound Jaroslav Pokorný, Ridina Ahmedová
Commissioning editor Josef Pazderka
Production company Český rozhlas

Title of series Forgive?
Episode 1 of 6

Length 33 min
Original language Czech
Published by ČRo – Czech Radio Plus
Date of publication 3 December 2023 at 06:00

Would you forgive the person who killed your loved one? This podcast series presents stories of people for whom forgiveness is not easy. Or they long to be forgiven themselves. They contemplate on what is unforgivable and how to go on living with such burdens. Ridina Ahmedová, musician and performer, explores five family dramas that do not always have a singularly positive outcome. She reveals the motivations and effects that forgiveness can have on mental and physical health, but also on interpersonal relationships and society as a whole. In this episode she tells the story of a family coping with the unexpected loss of their teenage son. The deceased Vojta's mother and sister's narratives reveal two levels of forgiveness and reconciliation with the world and themselves. They live in a small town and occasionally, unexpectedly meet the culprit of Vojta's death. They try to cope with the fact that he acts as if nothing happened and has never apologised to them, even though he is the court-convicted culprit of the fatal car accident. The second level of the story is the search for balance and a new form of relationships in a family that has lost its only son. And the adult first-born daughter has suddenly become the only offspring.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

OK, BOOMER

This documentary explores the battle of generational stereotypes that has been ongoing for years in the media and is unfortunately not letting up. The post-war Baby Boomers, labelled 'Boomers' by younger generations, have been criticised for their support of fossil fuels, economic destruction, insensitivity to minorities. By contrast, Generations Y and Z, the current twenty- and thirty-somethings, have been labelled 'Snowflakes' for priding themselves on their own uniqueness but being seemingly fragile. Generational contrasts are underpinned by different formative narratives, access to information and communication styles. Daniel Kupšovský explores this debate from its many vantage points and tries to get to its core. Are the issues between generations real or is it more about the narrative of generational conflict? How can we find reconciliation and create a shared future for all? He explores potential answers to these very questions with his respondents. He speaks with the journalist Apolena Rychlíková, with Petr Doubravský (environmental activist), Jaroslav Koťa (educator and sociologist) and Lucie Vidovičová (sociologist and gerontologist), all of whom bring different insight into the topic. The documentary aims to help open a more positive and productive conversation about the generational conflict and was created by Czech Radio in collaboration with Hate Free Culture, a Czech government project to combat hate and discrimination within society.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

05

OK, BOOMER

CZECH REPUBLIC

Submitting organisation

Český rozhlas – ČRo

Contact

Nikola Bartová

nikola.bartova@rozhlas.cz

Author / Director Daniel Kupšovský

Sound Dominik Budil

Dramaturgy Jakub Horáček, Adam Voneš

Commissioning editor Josef Pazderka

Producer Jakub Horáček

Production company Český rozhlas

Co-producer Hate Free Culture

Length 25 min

Original language Czech

Published by ČRo – Czech Radio Plus

Date of publication 14 January 2024 at 14:33

06

KIDNAPPET DENMARK

KIDNAPPED

Submitting organisation
Danish Broadcasting Corporation – DR

Contact
Anna Risgaard Dahl
risg@dr.dk

Authors / Directors / Dramaturgy
Anne Pedersen, Jakob Rasmussen
Sound Marie Kildebæk, Malte Winther Bothe
Commissioning editor Mikala Krogh
Producer Jens Vithner Hansen
Production company DR

Title of series Kidnapped
Episode 1 of 4

Length 32 min
Original language Danish
Published by DR Sounds

Date of publication 22 December 2023 at 05:00

Deep in the Colombian jungle, Danish agriculturalist Niels Frantzen has been kidnapped. Back home in Denmark, his four adult children anxiously wait for the phone to ring. They face a daunting task.

The length of Niels' captivity depends on their ability to negotiate with the Colombian rebel group FARC.

With no help from the Danish government, the four siblings have hired a professional hostage negotiator. Together they have devised a strategy to secure their father's release. However, in Colombia, Niels, unaware of their plan, inadvertently undermines it by trying to tell his children what to do.

Through unique and original phone recordings, listeners are brought close to the intense dilemmas that arise when four adult children are entrusted with the responsibility of saving their father's life. They must negotiate with FARC through their father as translator, because FARC's soldiers don't speak English.

The experienced hostage negotiator, Jens Serup, assists the children throughout the entire process. He explains why it is crucial to negotiate firmly in order to ensure Niels' safe release.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

THE OBSESSION: A WAR STORY

This is a story about what love, war, and lies do to a family over several generations.

Arne Øland has never known his father, and throughout his upbringing, his mother has refused to talk about her past. But one day, a bit of the secret slips out, and for Arne, this marks the beginning of a confrontation with his mother. As she slowly opens up about her painful experiences, a dramatic family story begins to unfold. Arne's beginning in life is tied to the end of one of the darkest chapters in Danish history: the Nazi occupation. When Arne obtains some information about the father he has never known, he becomes obsessed with finding him. Along the way, he discovers that he is far from being the only one: When the German soldiers withdrew from Denmark, thousands of children were left behind without a father and with a profound shame passed down from mother to child.

Arne ends up 'going to war' with the Danish authorities, who have denied the children information about their origin. In this war, his mother becomes one of the first casualties, and Arne gets so caught up in the search for his father that he forgets to be a parent to his own children. When Arne finally makes contact with his father's family, he visits them with his son Malthe. And now the question arises: What is a family?

Anne Pilegaard Petersen followed Arne and the family for 13 years. She is Arne's daughter-in-law and part of the family herself.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

07

BESÆTTELSEN

DENMARK

Submitting organisation
Danish Broadcasting Corporation – DR

Contact
Anna Risgaard Dahl
risg@dr.dk

Author / Director Anne Pilegaard Petersen
Sound Tobias Ingemann
Commissioning editors Hanne Barslund,
Cecilie Tonnesen
Producer Rune Sparre Geertsen
Production company MonoMono

Length 67 min
Original language Danish
Published by DR P1
Date of publication 9 April 2024 at 06:00

08

KADONNUT
KALENTERI. MITÄ
SARILLE TAPAHTUI?
FINLAND

Submitting organisation
Yle, the Finnish Broadcasting Company

Contact
Heikki Soini
heikki.soini@yle.fi

Author / Director Riikka Rahi
Sound Tiina Luoma
Commissioning editor Sampo Mäkelä
Producer Heikki Soini
Production company Yle

Title of series Kuukauden dokumentti /
Document of the Month

Length 42 min
Original language Finnish
Published by Yle Areena, Yle Radio 1
Date of publication 26 February 2024 at 19:02

THE LOST CALENDAR.
WHAT HAPPENED TO SARI?

Riikka Rahi found by accident a calendar from 1985, belonging to an unknown person. The only information about the owner is that her name is Sari and that she used to hang around in Helsinki in those days. Sari's calendar entries paint a picture of a wild and ragged youth. On the pages of the calendar, there is joy about hitchhiking, remorse about fuck ups, wavering between unemployment and freedom and a search for one's own place in the world. Police car sirens and ambulances wail as a sign of violence.

Riikka Rahi started to track down Sari in order to hear what her life as a young girl was like and to find out where she was now. The search turned out to be quite an adventure, during which Riikka Rahi heard numerous juicy accounts of what it was like to be young in Helsinki in the 1980s.

But do these people remember Sari and can they guide Riikka to the right place? Will Sari at last be found?

This Documentary is part of the strand Document of the Month in which long format audio documentaries are published, depicting the diversity of Finnish society and gives an insight to lives of people who seldom get heard.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

"HAITI, A VANISHING COUNTRY"

Without a government for more than two years after the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse in July 2021, Haiti, a Caribbean island of 11 million inhabitants, is plagued by the violence of criminal gangs who control 80 percent of the capital Port-au-Prince and have caused the deaths of nearly 2,500 people since the start of the year. In this country where the State has collapsed, public services no longer function and the population is left to its own devices.

It is beginning to arm itself and create self-defence gangs at the risk of tipping the country into a civil war because armed groups roam the streets of the Haitian capital, block supplies, fire heavy weapons at houses and commit the worst horrors such as rapes and kidnappings. Since 2016 no elections have been organised. There is no longer a Parliament, no Senate, no functioning justice system: no trial to judge the perpetrators of abuses. Human rights organisations denounce protections and alliances at the highest level.

It is to shed light on this situation and its direct consequences on the population that Omar Ouahmane, senior reporter for the international editorial staff of Radio France, went to Haiti. It is in Carrefour-Feuille that this report begins, a district where the habitants fled after the attack last August by the Gran-Ravin Gang, and where the fighting continues.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

09

"HAÏTI, UN ÉTAT EN VOIE DE DISPARITION" FRANCE

Submitting organisation
Radio France

Contact
Omar Ouahmane
omar.ouahmane@radiofrance.com

Author / Director Omar Ouahmane
Sound Jérôme Chélius,
Martine Meyssonier, Alisson Ascrizzi
Commissioning editor Omar Ouahmane
Production company Radio France

Length 47 min
Original language French
Published by France Inter, Radio France
Date of publication 24 September 2023 at 09:15

10

FRÉQUENTER
LES MORTS
FRANCE

HANG OUT WITH THE DEAD

Submitting organisation
Leslie Menahem

Contact
Leslie Menahem
leslie_menahem@hotmail.fr

Author / Director Leslie Menahem
Commissioning editor Annabelle Brouard
Producer Perrine Kervran
Production company ARTE Radio

Length 35 min
Original language French
Published by ARTE Radio
Date of publication 21 December 2024 at 00:01

"I have always been afraid of death. Black suits, grey cemetery, mournful tears, plastic flowers. I just didn't want to hear about it. And then my Dad died. I didn't have a choice. Death wanted to make friends with me. I had to accept to make friends with it." After the loss of her father, Leslie questions her fear of death. Her quest will lead her to meet four people who hang out with it every day: Mathieu, a thanatopractor; his brother Julien, a funeral advisor; Edd, who is in charge of a mortuary chamber; and André, a tomb photographer and cemetery lover. Through intimate questions about their practice and their own relationship to death, scenes of body preparation will emerge. But also funeral music listening. Discoveries of rituals. Sharing poems, objects or letters left with the deceased. Walks at Père Lachaise. Black humour. Laughter, tears and acts of love. Between lunar telephone conversations with her mother, and investigation into a taboo and frightening subject, Leslie tries to familiarise herself with what scares her, while trying to grieve.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

DEAD SILENCE – MY FATHER'S BOMB ATTACK

What is it like to find out that your father was an assassin?
Traudl Büniger tells the story of her father, who was involved in a bomb attack in Italy in 1962. Several people were injured, one of them died. Now the daughter sets out in search of the truth – about her father, his actions and right-wing nationalist networks in 1960s Germany. "Did you really do that? Did you want to kill someone? Do you feel guilty? What made you do this?"
She never got answers to these questions. After the sudden death of her father, Traudl Büniger tries to make others talk: her uncle, who was involved in the crimes, too. Her mother and sister. Her own memory. Contemporary witnesses, historians, archive material. She wants to know exactly what her father did back then and why. And she has to face a painful question: How can you love someone whose actions and beliefs you abhor?
It is a very personal family story that takes us deep into contemporary history and to events whose consequences are still felt today. The author reveals not only a haunting story about a daughter and father relationship but also an to date little-known chapter of German history. The father's unbroken silence was also the silence of an entire society that refused to acknowledge right-wing extremism in convictions and deeds and was therefore unable to prevent them – to this day.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

11

EISERNES SCHWEIGEN – ÜBER DAS ATTENTAT MEINES VATERS GERMANY

Submitting organisation
Westdeutscher Rundfunk – WDR / ARD

Contact
Lucy Hanisch
Lucy.Hanisch@wdr.de

Author Traudl Büniger
Director Susanne Krings
Sound Werner Jäger, Barbara Göbel
Dramaturg Isabel Platthaus
Commissioning editor Isabel Platthaus
Producers Werner Jäger, Barbara Göbel
Production company WDR

Title of series Dead Silence
Episode 1 of 8

Length 30 min
Original language German
Published by WDR
Date of publication 10 April 2024 at 00:01

12

EIN FUNKENFEUER
IN MIR. JAN – PORTRÄT
EINES FREUNDES
GERMANY

Submitting organisation
Südwestrundfunk – SWR / ARD

Contact
Michael Lissek
michael.lissek@swr.de

Author / Director Thomas David
Sound Thomas David, Michael Lissek
Commissioning editor Michael Lissek
Producer Michael Lissek
Production company SWR

Length 61 min
Original language German
Published by SWR Kultur
Date of publication 4 April 2024 at 14:04

THERE IS A FIREWORKS IN ME.
JAN – PORTRAIT OF A FRIEND

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Jan lost faith in the German government. When he refused to get vaccinated, he eventually had to give up his job as a bicycle messenger in 2020. Some years ago, he moved back in with his mother. Once all his savings are spent, he is planning to set fire to himself in Hamburg's Townhall Square. His old friend, the author Thomas David, pays him a visit at his parents' house. The story of a desperate man unfolds as some kind of acoustic chamber play. The listeners meanders between the characters; the violence that defines the scenes of the family portrayed is palpable throughout. The topic of people feeling wounded as a consequence of the Covid-19 restrictions, marks the interface currently dividing our society. A society torn apart by conspiracy theories and scientific facts, between a declining trust in politics and seeking refuge in 'dysfunctional' families. Always on the brink of tipping over to the far right – as if the pandemic had awakened traumata that we seemed to have long since left behind.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

I'M CARRIE JADE WILLIAMS!

A young woman conned an Irish podcast team. Carrie Jade Williams approached RTÉ Radio Documentary On One and told them that she was dying but that she's found an experimental treatment in the US that could save her life. Would they like to record the operation? The producers decided to interview her and heard the most fantastic story: Not only was she dying but, as a 32-year-old, she'd already had a remarkable life: She was born in a notorious mother-and-baby home for unwed mothers in Ireland. She was adopted by a single woman from Britain who was a rebel and also an heiress to millions. Carrie Jade became an evangelical Christian, married her boyfriend while still in college. Also, while still in college, she set up a water-testing company. She had a baby which died while being treated in a public health clinic. And on and on. Carrie Jade told the most incredible stories. Problem was they were just that 'incredible' – not credible – not true – almost all of her stories were made up. When she was asked follow-up questions, she went quiet and then disappeared. And, the RTÉ team paused the story. Then, a year later, a flurry of activity on TikTok showed that Carrie Jade Williams was actually a well-known fraudster. Her real name is Samantha Cookes. Now, the Documentary on One team had another series to make: find other people who, like them, had been tricked. And there were plenty ...

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

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I'M CARRIE JADE WILLIAMS!

IRELAND

Submitting organisation
Raidió Teilifís Éireann – RTÉ

Contact
Ronan Kelly
ronan.kelly@rte.ie

Author / Director / Producer Ronan Kelly
Sound Ruth Kennington
Commissioning editor Liam O'Brien
Production company RTÉ

Title of series The Real Carrie Jade
Episode 1 of 6

Length 29 min
Original language English
Published by RTÉ
Date of publication 7 June 2024 at 03:00

14

ATSIVĖRIMAS
LITHUANIA

COMING OUT

Submitting organisation
Lietuvos nacionalinis radijas ir televizija – LRT

Contact
Vaida Pilibaitytė
vaida.pilibaityte@lrt.lt

Authors / Directors / Producers
Rūta Dambravaitė, Inga Janiulytė-Temporin
Sound Rūta Dambravaitė,
Inga Janiulytė-Temporin
Commissioning editor Vaida Pilibaitytė
Production company LRT

Length 49 min
Original language Lithuanian
Published by LRT Radijas
Date of publication 4 February 2024 at 11:05

They have been together for 52 years. Vitalius and Albinas introduce themselves as father and son, but in fact they are partners. In Soviet times, when the two men first met, admitting that you were homosexual was extremely dangerous: It was considered an illness and a crime.

Vitalius is a journalist who has worked for many years in television, radio and print media. He was actively involved in the independence movement of Lithuania. He was lucky never to have been arrested or hospitalised, but he was well aware that it was happening, and he kept his guard up all the time. So he got used to lying about it to protect himself and his partner.

It's been more than three decades since Lithuania regained independence, but the couple still doesn't feel safe coming out and are still waiting for the legal recognition of same-sex union in the country. Lithuania remains among only three member states of the European Union where same-sex partnerships are still not recognised. As they grow old and Albinas' memory slowly fades, Vitalius is tired of hiding and decides to tell their life story publicly for the first time. This is one of very few occasions when the public hears from older members of the Lithuanian LGBTQ+ community. Since its publication, this radio documentary has been the most downloaded episode of the show ever, and renewed a public debate on the same-sex partnership law in Lithuania.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

I'M A 'KWECKJE'

Famiri is everything to Nicole. She grew up in a loving home; her family were always there for her. And yet there was always something at the back of her mind. When she was 13 years old, Nicole had to very suddenly move from her parental home in a village in Brabant to her aunt in the big city. Nicole is a 'Kweekje', a word used in the former Dutch colony Suriname, where her family is from; someone who does not grow up with their biological parents but with other family members or informal guardians instead. It made Nicole feel insecure, lonely and rejected, lacking a sense of purpose. Looking back, she is left with so many questions. Why did she have to leave? 'Kweekjes' are fairly common within her family and culture, and yet it is not something they are able to talk about. Nicole is not only afraid of how her family will react, she is also worried about the broader community. Despite all this, she still decides to confront her mother, the well-known comedian and actress Jetty Mathurin. According to sociologist Aspha Bijlar, to get to the bottom of her own 'kweek'-tale, Nicole will have to delve into the migration-history of the Afro-Surinamese people.

Note:

'Kweekje' is derived from the work 'kweken', which means 'to cultivate'. A Kweekje is literally something small that was cultivated, like a culture in a laboratory.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

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IK BEN EEN KWECKJE THE NETHERLANDS

Submitting organisation
VPRO

Contact
Mare de Vries
m.de.vries@vpro.nl

Author / Director Nicole Terborg
Sound Arno Peeters, Rory Ronde
Commissioning editor Katinka Baehr
Producer Mare de Vries
Production company VPRO
Co-producer Prospektor

Title of series Kweekje, mi kwekipikin
Episode 1 of 6

Length 31 min
Original language Dutch
Published by NPO Radio 1
Date of publication 5 November 2023 at 11:25

16

WAAR IS SARAH?

THE NETHERLANDS

WHERE IS SARAH?

Submitting organisation
VPRO

Contact
Laura Stek
laura.stek@gmail.com

Authors / Directors Laura Stek,
Rob Timmerman

Sound Darius Timmer (Music);
Arno Peters (Mix)

Commissioning editor Eefje Blankevoort
Producer Vera Bachrach

Production company Prospektor
Co-producer VPRO

Title of series Where Is Sarah?
Episode 1 of 6

Length 26 min

Original language Dutch

Published by Bureau Buitenland NPO Radio1

Date of publication 17 November 2024 at 13:30

Rob Timmerman spends half the year sailing on a rescue ship on the Mediterranean Sea, looking for people in distress. One person in particular is still on his mind: the newborn baby Sarah, whom he rescued from a rubber dinghy in 2016. Rob needs to know what became of her.

In turn, radio producer Laura Stek wonders why Rob desperately wants to find the now 7-year-old girl.

Over the course of six episodes, Rob Timmerman and Laura Stek take the listener along in their search for Sarah. In the process they meet supporters and opponents of rescue missions, migration experts, officials and survivors. In addition, through unique on-board audio recordings, the listener witnesses the rescues from the ship. Raw, intimate and close to the skin.

The podcast is a personal search for one's footing within the larger story of our European migration policy. Since his first mission in 2016, Rob has seen much change. In 2015, European rescue operations were still massively supported. Seven years later, Europe is closing its borders, aid initiatives by NGOs are being made more difficult, and migration deals have been struck with countries like Tunisia and Libya.

While politicians debate migration and asylum, Rob still sees people drowning from the ship.

In difficult moments, the image of Sarah appears on his retina. Will he find her? And what answers will he get?

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

ADAM. THE MYSTERY

Adam, a 13-year-old boy with a pale face and an intense gaze, is followed by his parents to a school in Oslo. The new student has advanced skills in mathematics and plays Bach from memory on the piano. But while Adam appears to be a child prodigy, teachers are puzzled to see him wearing the same baggy clothes every day and using plastic bags for socks. Unlike the other kids, the boy never brings a packed lunch to school. He has strange seizures in class and takes sedative pills. In his drawings, the teachers see the most horrible things: Small kids in cages, locked up in dark cellars. Chains. Blood.

What starts off as a disturbing story about a neglected child, develops, over the course of eight episodes, into something else entirely. Adam is not who he pretends to be. He is not a 13-year-old boy. Behind the teenage disguise hides a 33-year-old woman with a flat-bound chest. For several months, Barbora Škrlová deceived the Norwegian school system, child welfare services and police.

Starting in the Oslo school yard, a mystery unfolds that takes listeners through Sweden and Finland, all the way up to Tromsø, and south through Europe, into the Czech countryside.

This is a complex story about brainwashing and abuse in a religious cult, where the main character plays a very special role – but which one? Where some see a cynical manipulator, others see an innocent victim forced to participate in a bizarre masquerade.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

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MYSTERIET ADAM NORWAY

Submitting organisation
Norsk rikskringkasting – NRK

Contact
Trude Lorentzen
Trude.Lorentzen@nrk.no

Author / Director Trude Lorentzen
Sound Hilde Rolfsnes,
Tage Rivas Tollefsen, Jonas Magerøy
Commissioning editor Ragna Nordenborg
Producer Askild Matre Asarød
Production company NRK

Title of series Adam. The Mystery
Episode 1 of 8

Length 26 min
Original language Norwegian
Published by NRK
Date of publication 3 January 2024 at 06:00

18

GROTTEFESTEN

NORWAY

RAVE CAVE

Submitting organisation
Norsk rikskringkasting – NRK

Contact
Kjetil Saugestad
Kjetil.Saugestad@nrk.no

Author / Director Martin Holvik
Sound Merete Antonsen
Commissioning editor Ragna Nordenborg
Producer Hege Omre
Production company NRK

Length 48 min
Original language Norwegian
Published by NRK P2
Date of publication 5 June 2024 at 16:03

It's a summer evening in Oslo and the Corona virus is raging. A gang of party-loving boys, very tired of the Covid-19 restrictions, break into an abandoned bunker that once was a bomb shelter, in central Oslo.

The cave extends deep into the hill. There they bring in power generators, music systems and laser lights to organise an illegal rave party.

They invite everyone they know on Snapchat and Tinder.

Word gets around and soon hundreds of young people are crawling into a small hatch in the hillside, to party and get high.

One of them is 22-year-old Magnus. He has just said goodbye to his mother and moved to the big city to study and become an architect. Now he is in the middle of the dance floor with no idea that the aggregates are spewing out deathly carbon dioxide, which suffocates you from the inside.

People around him pass out, one by one. The cave is a death trap. A gigantic and risky rescue operation is launched. All news media report of lifeless partygoers being dragged out of the cave.

Magnus's mother is waking up to the news. She gets a bad feeling when her son doesn't answer the phone. He is in hospital in a coma. After a while, Magnus wakes up with permanent brain damage and amnesia. His dreams of the future are shattered. Two young men will eventually be sentenced to two and a half years in prison.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

THE WOMAN AND THE MONUMENT

She is a modest woman living in a building on the other side of the street. He stands against a white and red wall, the size of a bus, and – before he died – was the president of the country. The conflict seems inevitable, although neither of them wants it. But they have no choice, because the memory of him is part of the political game embracing society, for years divided into two opposing political tribes. The first one erects monuments, the other laughs at them.

The parties representing the tribes – the Law and Justice (PiS) and the Civic Coalition (KO) have become deadly enemies. They continue to fuel the conflict, accusing each other of corruption, authoritarian tendencies, or disrespect for the Constitution. Suddenly and unexpectedly, Lublin becomes the scene of the most peculiar political alliance between the opposing parties. Consequently, the largest monument of the late president in Poland is erected in one of the most characteristic spots of the city. But what common interests are hiding behind this alliance? Where is the respect for a human being and a citizen in all this?

The series based on this story asks the fundamental questions about the mechanics of power, honesty, human dignity, cowardice, and courage. It also exposes the true faces of 'power holders'.

Don't you dare ask uncomfortable questions or stand up to them – when you do, they will unite and, regardless of political convictions, pass over you like a steamroller.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

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KOBIETA I POMNIK POLAND

Submitting organisation

Radio Lublin S.A. w likwidacji

Contact

Agnieszka Czyżewska Jacquemt
agnieszka.czyzewska@radiolublin.pl

Author / Director / Producer

Agnieszka Czyżewska Jacquemt

Sound Piotr Król

Commissioning editor

Agnieszka Czyżewska Jacquemt

Production company Polish Radio Lublin

Title of series The Woman and the Monument

Episode 1 of 4

Length 19 min

Original language Polish

Published by Radio Lublin

Date of publication 7 February 2024 at 21:10

20

TUNEL SPASA SLOVENIA

THE TUNNEL OF SALVATION

Submitting organisation
Student Cultural Centre – ŠKUC

Contact
Jasmina Kožar
skuc@skuc.si

Authors Alen Jelen, Indira Buljubašić,
Nick Teunissen, Ismir Hero,
Edis Kolar, Fuad Serdarević,
Midhat Karić, Selma Catović Hughes,
Belma Cuzović, Ena Kukić

Adapted from
An Ordinary Sarajevo Story by I. Buljubašić
and One Way Ticket by N. Teunissen

Director / Producer Alen Jelen

Sound Nijaz Kurtalić,
Haris Sahačić, Sonja Strenar

Dramaturg Matjaž Briški
Commissioning editor Alen Jelen

Production company ŠKUC

Co-producers RTV Slovenia Channel 3 – ARS;
B-AIR Art Infinity Radio – The Creative
Europe programme; Memorialni centar
Sarajevo – Muzej Tunel spasa

Length 44 min

Original language Bosnian

Published by Radio Slovenia

Date of publication 22 December 2023 at 22:05

This documentary does not just encompass the harrowing stories of individuals caught in the turmoil of war in occupied Sarajevo, but is a homage to the humanity within us.

The tunnel stories illuminate an intimate possibility for salvation, because we genuinely care and do not take everything for granted. Events may be grim, ugly, unjust. Us humans are a tomb of buried feelings, since life does not always slip by as in a dream but is constantly cutting and burning, tearing out flames from within that we never knew were inside us. It lashes at us with icy waves and carries us to and from like a boat in a storm. There is a moment in everyone's life that remains, no matter how much time has passed. We try not to let the memories, traumas float to the surface, until the barren slumbering night silently presses against us. Though our terrors pursue us relentlessly, we must bare our teeth like a wounded dog, which has just been abused. Memory is not like a grate that can hold back what it has received. Repressed, buried traumas and fears must be dealt with. Until all memory is covered by grass, that uncut hair of the grave, and a new bud proves that death does not truly reign, and to the extent that it ever did, it was a precursor to life.

The Tunnel of Salvation is synonymous with the fears trapped within us, but it is also a metaphor for beauty, the everlasting light that shines at the end of the tunnel.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

NOAH'S NEW DADS

Noah is 13 years old when he is forced to leave his home, family and country – Afghanistan. After a year of travelling from construction site to construction site in Iran, where he is trying to make a living as an illegal immigrant, he hears of a place far away. A place where another kind of life, a better life, is said to be possible. Europe. After a long and difficult journey he ends up in Sweden as one of many unaccompanied refugees that arrived in 2015.

Here he is placed in the home of the couple Gert and Lasse. Noah has never heard about homosexuality before, and it goes against his religion, Islam. But with his two dads he starts a new life. The last home he had was a mud brick house in rural Afghanistan. Now he lives in a turn-of-the-century apartment in Stockholm, with walls covered in modern art and shelves full of books.

The years pass, and Noah is now 22 years. Having started out illiterate, he has now begun studying politics, philosophy and economics at university. He has friends, goes to the gym and reads thick books on Kant and Socrates.

But then Noah is reminded of his old life. He is forced to reflect on who he is and where he belongs. And the thoughts of the mother who once abandoned him won't go away. He has too many questions. Noah wants to meet her one last time. Even though it's more dangerous than ever. This is a documentary about leaving one family, finding a new one and being stuck in between.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

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NOAHS NYA PAPPOR SWEDEN

Submitting organisation

Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact

Anna Frey

anna.frey@sr.se

Authors

Miranda Wretman & Lydia Bandolin Sörlin

Director Anna Frey

Sound Tor Sigvardson (Mix)

Commissioning editor Marie-Jeanette Löfgren

Producer Anna Frey

Production company SR

Length 52 min

Original language Swedish

Published by SR P1 Dokumentär

Date of publication 6 October 2023 at 06:00

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**P3 DOKUMENTÄR:
MILJONBEDRÄGERIET –
MANNEN SOM SVARADE
PÅ ETT NIGERIABREV
SWEDEN**

Submitting organisation
Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact
Rosa Fernandez
rosa.fernandez@sr.se

Author / Producer Ida Lundqvist
Directors Emilio Di Stefano, Dick Andersson
Sound Emilio Di Stefano, Dick Andersson,
Ida Lundqvist (Recordists)
Dramaturg Tove Palén
Commissioning editor Rosa Fernandez
Production company SR
Co-producers Gunilla Film AB,
Letar Efter Aktiebolag

Title of series P3 Documentary:
A Multimillion Fraud – The Man Who
Answered a Nigerian Scam Letter
Episode 1 of 3

Length 43 min
Original language Swedish
Published by SR P3
Date of publication 16 May 2024 at 06:00

**P3 DOCUMENTARY:
A MULTIMILLION FRAUD –
THE MAN WHO ANSWERED A
NIGERIAN SCAM LETTER**

Magnus Gruvén responds to an email, and soon his entire world is about to collapse. One of the largest frauds in Sweden begins. Magnus Gruvén is a 63-year-old IT-consultant. In the summer of 2016, he receives an email from a woman he doesn't know. She introduces herself as Mrs. Chelsea William and writes that Magnus will inherit nearly a 100 million kronor (approx. 9 m euro) when she dies. As he replies to the email, he becomes entangled in one of the biggest scams against an individual in Sweden. Soon, he finds himself on a flight to Brussels, where he will see a bag full of dollar bills. He meets a man dressed in an elegant suit who takes him to an office to display the money. Meanwhile, his ex-wife and best friend Britt, grows worried. She thinks Magnus is naive and warns him that he is being deceived. But Magnus does not listen. He becomes manipulated by sophisticated scammers likely to be involved in organised crime. Magnus descends down the rabbit hole. He borrows money from everyone he knows; his ex-wife, his children, his friends and neighbours and sends it to the fraudsters. Experts at the national fraud centre of the Swedish police say that Magnus is taking a significant risk – that those deceiving him won't hesitate to harm anyone who gets in their way. When reporters Di Stefano and Andersson contact Magnus, he is in prison in Spain, convicted of smuggling cocaine. They start to uncover how he ended up there and how everything is connected.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

DESTINATION OLDISTAN – THE POWER OF DENTAL FLOSS

Aurélie is 35, and the idea of growing old scares her less than the idea of ending her life alone.

Christine is 43, and the idea of growing old doesn't appeal to her at all, and never has.

Inevitably, however, these two journalists, who have been a couple for 10 years, will one day be old lesbians; a double punishment, a double invisibility. Ageism particularly affects the queer world: older people are excluded from debates, find themselves alone and isolated, marginalised in their own community which sometimes seems to worship youth. In Destination Oldistan, Christine and Aurélie set off to meet queer senior citizens in French-speaking Switzerland who tell their deeply moving stories. During their journey, the two journalists set about deconstructing their own ageist clichés, trying to come to terms with their grey hair and building bridges to talk about ageing to young and old alike, queer and non-queer. All this while thinking about an attractive future retirement plan! What is our life expectancy? What should we do with our grey hair? Does loneliness threaten us all as we age?

In this first episode, Aurélie and Christine invite their lesbian friends over to talk about their old age, a subject they rarely discuss. Then they walk through the door of an EMS to meet Robin and Thomas, two friends who are almost 50 years apart in age but have so much in common.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

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DESTINATION VIEIL- LISTAN – LE POUVOIR DU FIL DENTAIRE SWITZERLAND

Submitting organisation

Radio Télévision Suisse – RTS / SRG SSR

Contact

Valérie Dentan

valerie.dentan@rts.ch

Authors Aurélie Cuttat, Christine Gonzalez

Director Marc Frochaux

Sound Marc Frochaux

Commissioning editor Marc Frochaux

Producer Grégoire Molle

Production company RTS

Title of series Destination Vieillistan

Episode 1 of 10

Length 30 min

Original language French

Published by RTS

Date of publication 13 August 2023 at 10:00

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КУХНЯ ОКУПАЦІЇ.
ЩО І ЯК ЇЛИ УКРАЇНЦІ
НА ОКУПОВАНИХ
ТЕРИТОРІЯХ?
UKRAINE

Submitting organisation
Suspilne Ukraine – UA:PBC

Contact
Anna Orlenko
a.orlenko@suspilne.media

Author / Producer Yulia Chaplinska
Directors Vadym Tsarenko, Svitlana Sirenko
Sound Olena Kharchenko (Edit)
Commissioning editor Yulia Chaplinska
Production company Suspilne Ukraine

Title of series How We Eat –
The Cuisine of Everyday Life During War
Episode 1 of 6

Length 18 min
Original language Ukrainian
Published by Channel Radio Kultura
Date of publication 20 February 2024 at 12:05

OCCUPATION KITCHEN:
WHAT AND HOW UKRAINIANS
ATE IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES?

The protagonists of our story describe in detail their daily rations and where, why, and what food supplies they found in various regions of Ukraine, including the Kyiv region, the Chernihiv region, and Mariupol at the start of the full-scale war.

They talk about the drastic changes that extreme occupation conditions brought to the eating habits of Ukrainian families. How and what could be cooked during short breaks between massive shelling? What did the daily ration consist of under occupation? How food sometimes became a source of comfort, especially for children. And how such a mundane task as cooking sometimes turned into an act of heroism.

The programme is also, about the inherent Ukrainian neighbourliness, mutual aid, and mutual support. How the local villagers literally saved those from starvation who fled the cities with just a backpack on their shoulders in the first hours of the invasion, hoping to stay safe for a few days. About how and where Ukrainians had to hide food from the occupiers. Instead of refrigerators keeping food fresh, people stored food in the frozen ground in the absence of electricity.

All of this, along with reflections on values after the occupation, on how war is a test of the human ability to respond to circumstances, "to take a hit," and to adapt to changes, is discussed in this radio documentary series.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

"AM I HOME?" – LIFE IN A DEMENTIA VILLAGE

In the heart of Warwick, England, lies an extraordinary experiment in dementia treatment: a care home transformed to look like a "fake" English village. Inside its walls, residents suffering from dementia can roam outside their households, visit the local shop and even get their hair done at Cutters Hair and Beauty salon. It creates a Truman Show-esque environment, where simulations of real shops, streets and even service staff allow residents the illusion and comfort of familiarity and routine.

Yet beneath the surface of these carefully-curated environments, lies a complex web of ethical considerations. Because: we lie to people suffering from dementia. In fact, it's one of the only illnesses where the culture of lying extends into the entire care process.

In this documentary, journalist Lara Bullens takes listeners on a profound audio journey into a community designed to redefine the boundaries of familiarity for those navigating the fog of dementia, and grapples with the implications of creating alternative realities for those whose grip on the real world is tenuous. Is it possible to build a world that comforts without deceiving, that cares in complete honesty? Weaving an immersive sonic narrative that is as personal as it is universal, Lara draws from the haunting memory of her own mother's struggle with early onset fronto-temporal dementia.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

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"AM I HOME?" – LIFE IN A DEMENTIA VILLAGE UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation
Overcoat Media

Contact
Janice Jardine
janice.jardine@overcoatmedia.com

Author Lara Bullens
Director Steven Rajam
Sound Mike Woolley
Commissioning editor Hugh Levinson (BBC)
Producers Lara Bullens, Olivia Humphreys
Production company Overcoat Media

Length 28 min
Original language English
Published by BBC Radio 4
Date of publication 12 May 2024 at 19:00

26

ASSUME NOTHING;
FEMICIDE – A HISTORY
OF CONTROL – MARION
UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation
British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC

Contact
Sarah McGlinchey
sarah.mcglinchey@bbc.co.uk

Director Sarah McGlinchey
Sound Bill Maul
Commissioning editor Emma Dunseith
Producer Sarah McGlinchey
Production company BBC Northern Ireland

Title of series Assume Nothing; Femicide –
Eight Steps to Stop a Murder
Episode 1 of 8

Length 23 min
Original language English
Published by BBC Sounds / BBC Radio Ulster
Date of publication 16 March 2024 at 12:00

ASSUME NOTHING;
FEMICIDE – A HISTORY OF
CONTROL – MARION

Imagine if you had a blueprint to recognise when a murder is likely to happen? How many lives could be saved? Women get killed in their own home with alarming frequency. Almost all media coverage concentrates on how awful these murders are, with no analysis of cause. Assume Nothing: Femicide is designed to identify the indicators that a woman is in danger. Because these signs exist, and there is a timeline that applies to almost every domestic killing. Though the victim's story might appear in the daily news, it is less often afforded the same media attention given to other murders. There is even a term experts use to describe the more lenient sentences handed to perpetrators of domestic homicide compared to those who kill a stranger; the domestic discount. There is, desperately, a class prejudice with regard to attitudes to the murder of women. Where alcohol or drugs feature in lifestyle, assumptions are made. Where there are single parents or financial struggles, many feel they have understanding enough to make sense of the death. They are almost always wrong. This series is unapologetically brutal in its description of what some men do to women. It explains manipulation, mental and physical abuse, and control. Through tangible case studies it shows women what to look out for. Crucially, it offers real advice about what to do and when. This series is designed to save lives. It is a guide, a warning, a support. It's tough, yes. So is losing a daughter, a mother, a sister.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary Series of the Year

AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

DEGRADED BY DEEPPFAKES

Jodie had everything: she was smart, happy and had a great circle of friends. But while she was still at college, strange things began to happen to her. She would find photos of herself on dating websites; fake profiles created of her, without her knowledge. Men would message her out of the blue on social media and tell her they'd been chatting online for months. Jodie shrugged all this off as one of the pitfalls of being young in a digital age. But then Jodie was sent an anonymous email alerting her to images of herself on porn sites, deep-faked onto pornographic bodies.

Initially turned away by the police, she turned detective herself – but nothing could prepare her for what she eventually discovered. And what happened to Jodie could happen to any of us.

This documentary exposed a gap in the law on a type of AI crime that is growing exponentially across the world. It is now being used in a parliamentary campaign to amend the law around pornographic deepfake material in the UK.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Documentary of the Year

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DEGRADED BY DEEPPFAKES

UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation

British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC

Contact

Kate West

kate.west@bbc.co.uk

Author Kate West

Director Carl Johnston

Sound Nicky Edwards

Commissioning editor Carl Johnston

Producer Rhoda Buchanan

Production company BBC Manchester

Length 42 min

Original language English

Published by BBC Radio 4

Date of publication 2 April 2024 at 20:02

PRIX EUROPA 2024

Audio Investigation Category

Awards

★ PRIX EUROPA

Best European Audio Investigation of the Year

★ PRIX EUROPA

Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

Jury Group Coordinators

Gabriela Hermer

Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg – rbb / ARD, Germany

Liam O'Brien

Raidió Teilifís Éireann – RTÉ, Ireland

01	Cause of Death: The Border	Croatia
02	Tyrant: Saddam Hussein	Denmark
03	Struck by Lightning	Finland
04	Diagnosis: Wayward – The Nightmare 'Tripperburg'	Germany
05	Soulcatchers – Toxic Tantra: Yoga for Beginners	Germany
06	Tatort Kunst. The Coveted Nazi Porcelain	Germany
07	Runaway Joe	Ireland
08	Leader's Embrace	Latvia
09	Benito's Fight for Safety in Foster Care	The Netherlands
10	The Escort Scam – She Wears a Mask	The Netherlands
11	Therapy	Poland
12	Distress – School of Hard Knocks	Sweden
13	The Agents	Sweden
14	The Prison: Humiliation – 'They Thought of the Clients as Animals'	Sweden
15	Dangerous Journeys	United Kingdom
16	Three Million	United Kingdom

AUDIO INVESTIGATION

Timetable

MONDAY 7 October

9:30		Jury Group Briefing		
10:00	05	Soulcatchers – Toxic Tantra: Yoga for Beginners	Germany	43min
10:50	02	Tyrant: Saddam Hussein	Denmark	34min
11:25		Break		
11:50	13	The Agents	Sweden	58min
12:55	09	Benito's Fight for Safety in Foster Care	The Netherlands	38min
13:35		Lunch		
14:30	11	Therapy	Poland	32min
15:05	04	Diagnosis: Wayward – The Nightmare 'Tripperburg'	Germany	31min
15:35		Break		
16:00	16	Three Million	United Kingdom	28min
16:30	03	Struck by Lightning	Finland	24min
17:00		Start of Discussion		

TUESDAY 8 October

9:30	15	Dangerous Journeys	United Kingdom	33min
10:05	10	The Escort Scam – She Wears a Mask	The Netherlands	37min
10:45	14	The Prison: Humiliation – 'They Thought of the ...'	Sweden	30min
11:15		Break		
11:40	07	Runaway Joe	Ireland	30min
12:15	01	Cause of Death: The Border	Croatia	43min
13:00		Lunch		
14:00	08	Leader's Embrace	Latvia	32min
14:35	12	Distress – School of Hard Knocks	Sweden	30min
15:05		Break		
15:30	06	Tatort Kunst. The Coveted Nazi Porcelain	Germany	60min
16:40		Start of Discussion		

01

UZROK SMRTI:
GRANICA
CROATIA

CAUSE OF DEATH: THE BORDER

Submitting organisation
Hrvatska radiotelevizija – HRT

Contact
Alma Pijaca
IR.radio@hrt.hr

Author / Director Barbara Matejčić
Sound Srđan Nogić, Miroslav Šeb
Commissioning editor Nikica Klobučar
Producer Nikica Klobučar
Production company HRT Croatian Radio

Length 43 min

Original language Croatian
Published by HR3
Date of publication 5 June 2024 at 18:00

"We have two choices: to die or to realise our dream," say migrants in Bosnia and Herzegovina while trying to cross the border with Croatia and enter the European Union. They are fleeing from everywhere outside Europe, to somewhere in Europe where many of them will never reach. The EU expects Croatia to protect its external border. Croatia is also doing this wholeheartedly, even though Croatian war refugees sought safety in Western Europe 30 years ago. The Croatian police at the border illegally return people to Bosnia, ordering them to step over or swim across a cold river, climb over rocks, go through the forest, sometimes naked and not knowing the way, because the police usually take away their mobile phones.

There are hundreds of unmarked (nameless) graves of those who did not realise their dream, scattered in cemeteries in Croatia and Bosnia.

Who knows how many more bodies have not been found.

Barbara Matejčić visits cemeteries on the migrant Balkan route.

She talks to activists and volunteers who are helping families thousands of kilometers away to find and identify their loved ones, because institutions are slow to do so. In Bosnia, she meets an Afghan whose

relative drowned in a river between Bosnia and Croatia. In Morocco, she talks to the father of a young man who drowned in a river in Croatia.

They all say: These deaths, these graves are monuments to the EU policy, because they were not killed by the river, but by the EU's border regime.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation of the Year

AUDIO INVESTIGATION

TYRANT: SADDAM HUSSEIN

This P3 podcast dives into the lives of history's most infamous tyrants. Through narratives and thorough research, the hosts expose the darkest chapters of human history. Tyrant aims to enlighten listeners about the world's most murderous, corrupt, deceitful, and power-hungry figures who have left indelible marks on our world. By understanding these historical tyrants, we can better identify and resist today's oppressors. Each episode delves into the lives and actions of one particular tyrant, both well-known and obscure, uncovering their methods, motives, and the devastating impacts of their deeds. Emil and Nicholas make this heavy topic more accessible and engaging with a blend of gravity and dark humour. They bring history to life, making it relevant to our contemporary world.

Tyrant is a podcast that provides listeners with the tools to understand and navigate a world where power abuse remains a significant issue. This podcast is a valuable source of insight and reflection, that helps listeners draw connections between past and present, fostering a deeper awareness of the ongoing struggle against tyranny and oppression.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

02

TYRAN: SADDAM HUSSEIN DENMARK

Submitting organisation

Danish Broadcasting Corporation – DR (Sales)

Contact

Anna Risgaard Dahl

risg@dr.dk

Authors Emil Rothstein-Christensen,

Nicholas Durup Thomsen (Hosts)

Sound Tobias Ingemann,

Mikkel Bøgeskov Andersson

Dramaturg Oskar Bundgaard

Commissioning editor Anders Eriksen Stegger

Producer Emil Rothstein-Christensen

Production company MonoMono

Title of series Tyrant

Episode 1 of 5

Length 34 min

Original language Danish

Published by Danmarks Radio – DR, P3

Podcast

Date of publication 31 December 2023 at 06:00

03

SALAMANISKU

FINLAND

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING

Submitting organisation
Yle, the Finnish Broadcasting Company

Contact
Sakari Silvola
sakari.silvola@yle.fi

Author / Director Ronja Salmi
Sound Eliel Kilkki

Commissioning editor Sakari Silvola

Producer Emilia Raussi

Production company Mellakka Management

Title of series Struck by Lightning
Episode 1 of 8

Length 24 min

Original language Finnish

Published by Yle & Yle Areena

Date of publication 17 January 2024 at 06:00

In the summer of 2011 an extraordinary accident occurred in South Finland. A bolt of lightning struck an army tent where eight conscripts were sleeping. The incident affected all present. This series is a story about how one night changed the lives of eight people.

Journalist Ronja Salmi's investigative podcast covers the events of that fateful night and its consequences. How did the young men recover from their injuries and do they still carry a mental burden? Where are they now? How did the accident affect their lives?

The series also ponders the essence of chance and coincidence and their meaning in life. What if it wasn't all mere misfortune? What role do the Finnish Defence Forces play in this?

The series expands from considering individual fates and also examines systemic failings. Finland has compulsory military service, which the majority of men do. Some women also commit to voluntary military service.

However, 1400 people a year, a significant number, are injured or taken ill while doing military service. This issue has not been discussed publicly before.

The series reveals that accidents and near misses continue to happen in the Finnish Defence Forces and safeguards remain lacking. The Safety Investigation Authority of Finland noted the lack of a comprehensive system for collecting follow-up data already in 2005. A system was finally implemented with a simple internet form in 2022, 17 years after the first recommendation. What was the reason for the delay?

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

AUDIO INVESTIGATION

DIAGNOSIS: WAYWARD – THE NIGHTMARE 'TRIPPERBURG'

The podcast tells the story of three women who were imprisoned and abused in so-called 'Tripperburgen' in the former GDR. The story is the result of months of research by a team of young journalists and is told by host Charlotte Witt. They brought a dark chapter of GDR history to life and made it accessible. It is paired with a unique sound design that draws listeners into the topic and the stories. The sound and the narrative style create a special balance between the gravity of the topic and the beautiful moments in each woman's biography. The podcast manages to portray those affected not as victims and not expose them with their experiences, but instead creates an appreciative atmosphere and a sensitive approach to the topic. In addition to the historical focus, the impact on young people today also plays a key role in the podcast. Which discriminatory and oppressive structures from back then still have an impact on our everyday lives today? How has the role of women changed and what are deeply rooted role models that society is struggling to get rid of? With its own feminist claim and a sensitive approach, the programme attempts to paint a complete picture of this chapter of the GDR without reinforcing stereotypes and clichés. The podcast is also intended to familiarise young people with the GDR who did not live to see it.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

04

DIAGNOSE: UNANGEPASST – DER ALBTRAUM TRIPPERBURG GERMANY

Submitting organisation
Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk – MDR / ARD

Contact
Sophie Rauch
sophie.rauch@mdr.de

Authors Sophie Rauch, Floris Asche
Director Amelie Hüsni
Sound Ole Zender
Dramaturg Floris Asche
Commissioning editor Amelie Hüsni
Producer Ole Zender
Production company MDR next

Title of series Diagnose: Unangepasst
Episode 1 of 6

Length 31 min

Original language German
Published by ARD Audiothek
Date of publication 30 April 2024 at 06:00

05

SEELENFÄNGER –
TOXIC TANTRA:
YOGA FÜR ANFÄNGER
GERMANY

Submitting organisation
Bayerischer Rundfunk – BR / ARD

Contact
Till Ottlitz
till.ottlitz@br.de

Authors Katja Paysen-Petersen,
Christiane Hawranek

Director Ron Schickler
Sound Robin Auld

Commissioning editors Till Ottlitz,
Sabine Winter, Pia Dangelmayr
Producer Christiane Hawranek
Production company BR

Title of series Soul Catchers: Toxic Tantra
Episode 1 of 8

Length 43 min

Original language German
Published by Bayern 2

Date of publication 23 April 2024 at 17:05

SOULCATCHERS – TOXIC TANTRA:
YOGA FOR BEGINNERS

Shape your body, live your sexuality, boost your self-esteem and achieve true happiness. This is what the international ATMAN Federation of yoga and meditation promises anyone who books one of their yoga classes.

But people who have spent time inside the organisation tell a different story. They call it a sex cult. Former members speak of emotional abuse, sexual exploitation and human trafficking.

The story begins when one of our podcast listeners tells reporters Katja Paysen-Petersen and Christiane Hawranek how she attended a tantra yoga course – and ended up having sex with her guru. For hours. Without really wanting to. Even years later, it makes her uncomfortable to talk about it. But she says she wants to warn others about this yoga movement.

Thus begins a yearlong investigation that takes the two reporters from a yoga class in Berlin to a strip club in Bucharest and finally to a mysterious villa on the Black Sea coast.

The movement's guru, Grigorian Bivolaru, has been wanted by Interpol for years. He was hiding in a cramped apartment in Paris. But in the autumn of 2023, during the research for this podcast, he is arrested. During the raid, the French police discover more than 40 women in other apartments in Paris who were either working for Bivolaru or waiting to be trafficked to him.

This series tells the story of three survivors of this cult and lays open a network that promised personal fulfilment but caused terrible harm.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

AUDIO INVESTIGATION

TATORT KUNST. THE COVETED NAZI PORCELAIN

At first glance, they are harmless porcelain figures, painted white or other colours: a little dachshund, a deer, cute bears, a rider on a horse. But when you lift them up, you discover modified SS runes, the hallmark of Heinrich Himmler's so-called Schutzstaffel, the 'SS'. Himmler, head of the SS and a close confidant of Adolf Hitler's, had a penchant for porcelain.

In 1936, Himmler instructed four men with close ties to the SS to found the Allach-München porcelain factory as a limited company. Initially, production was in Allach, a suburb of Munich. But in 1937 it was relocated to Dachau, to the SS sector of the concentration camp. From this time on, there was a workshop for Allach porcelain in the middle of the school for concentration camp guards. Concentration camp prisoners were also forced to work here. Hans Landauer, a concentration camp survivor from Vienna, was one of them. Himmler wanted to use the porcelain to bring the indoctrination of the population in National Socialism into German living rooms. After the end of the Second World War, the porcelain factory was destroyed. However, many figures exist to this day. They are traded on a market that is conducted mainly in secret. For thousands and even tens of thousands of euros. Completely legally. The Tatort Kunst team wants to know how this can happen. And who collects this concentration camp porcelain?

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation of the Year

06

TATORT KUNST. DAS BELIEBTE NAZI-PORZELLAN GERMANY

Submitting organisation

Deutschlandradio / Deutschlandfunk

Contact

Sylvia Bernhardt

sylvia.bernhardt@deutschlandradio.de

Authors Rahel Klein, Stefan Koldehoff

Director / Producer Sven Preger

Commissioning editor Stefan Koldehoff

Production company Deutschlandradio

Length 60 min

Original language German

Published by Deutschlandfunk

Date of publication 7 September 2023 at 05:00

07

RUNAWAY JOE IRELAND

RUNAWAY JOE

Submitting organisation
Raidió Teilifís Éireann – RTÉ

Contact
Tim Desmond
tim.desmond@rte.ie

Authors / Directors
Tim Desmond, Pavel Barter
Sound Peadar Kearney
Commissioning editor Liam O'Brien
Producer Tim Desmond
Production company RTÉ
Co-Producer Pavel Barter

Title of series Runaway Joe
Episode 1 of 9

Length 30 min

Original language English
Published by RTÉ Documentary On One
Date of publication 19 January 2024 at 03:00

In 1967, a young American man name Joe Maloney was charged with first degree murder in Rochester, New York. Having initially been held in custody awaiting trial, he managed to escape and go on the run. Despite a massive manhunt throughout the state of New York, local Police – and the FBI – lost their man. Joe Maloney simply vanished.

Fast forward 60 years, to 2024, and this 9-part true crime investigative series sets out to do what no other law enforcement agency worldwide has been able to do – to find and locate Joe Maloney – and in doing so, give some sense of justice back to his victims.

Born in upstate New York, Joe Maloney's parents were both Irish. Having been to Ireland many times in his youth, it was to the country of his ancestors that he fled. He arrived to the shores of Ireland (literally) in the late 1960s, he managed to create a whole new life for himself under the false identity of Michael O'Shea. And it worked. Well, almost. For 20 years, Michael O'Shea lived the life of a wealthy returned emigrant to the Emerald Isle. He became involved in various money making schemes and established himself in the movie business. He married and bought a large country estate, living life as a quintessential Lord of the Manor. But behind this veil, Maloney was a dangerous and violent man on the run from the FBI.

In 1985, he was eventually apprehended by the Irish authorities – but in the most bizarre of circumstances, he escaped again – and has remained on the run ever since ...

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

AUDIO INVESTIGATION

LEADER'S EMBRACE

In 2016, Marina goes to the K.I.D. camp, where she meets one of its leaders – a man nicknamed 'Vermouth'. At the time, Marina is 16 years old, and Vermouth is 35.

After the camp, he begins to message Marina. After a few months of persistent attention, she becomes involved.

In the spring of 2017, they have three encounters, which also mark the beginning of their sexual relationship and alleged abuse.

In 2018, realising the gravity of what has happened to her, Marina, together with her friend, attempts to seek justice from the K.I.D. administration.

The camp director acknowledges that what has transpired is unacceptable, yet fails to offer any assistance.

In this episode we also hear from Darya. Her experience with Vermouth occurs while he is still seeing Marina. At that time, Darya was 19 years old.

This investigative podcast series uncovers the systematic abuse of teenage girls and young women in youth organisation's K.I.D. camps and events, as well as within the game club "What? Where? When?" (Russian translation: Chto? Gde? Kogda?) in Latvia.

It is a story about the imbalance of power, blurred boundaries, and the unchecked interest and attention of adult men towards underage girls and young women.

In the podcast, we recount the experiences of eight women.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

08

LĪDERA APSKĀVIENS

LATVIA

Submitting organisation

Latvijas Radio

Contact

Alise Pētersone

alise.petersone@latvijasradio.lv

Authors Dace Krejere, Agnese Linka;

Olga Dragiļeva, Sarmīte Gaidule,

Aija Rutka (Delfi)

Director / Producer Anita Brauna

Sound Ivo Tauriņš, Justīne Savitska

Commissioning editor Anita Brauna

Production company Latvijas Radio

Co-Producer Filips Lastovskis (Delfi)

Title of series Dokumentārijs

Episode 1 of 6

Length 32 min

Original language Latvian, Russian

Published by

Latvijas Radio podcast Dokumentārijs

Date of publication 5 December 2023 at 06:30

09

UITHUISPLAATSINGEN:
BENITO'S STRIJD
VOOR EEN VEILIGER
GEZINSHUIS
THE NETHERLANDS

BENITO'S FIGHT FOR SAFETY
IN FOSTER CARE

Submitting organisation
VPRO

Contact
Judith Konijn
j.konijn@vpro.nl

Author / Director Judith Konijn
Sound Alfred Koster

Dramaturg Katinka Baehr
Commissioning editor Erwin Schievink
Producers Judith Konijn, Nina van Raay
Production company VPRO
Co-Producer HUMAN

Length 38 min

Original language Dutch
Published by NPO Radio 1 Argos
Date of publication 28 October 2023 at 14:04

Benito (21) grew up in foster care from the age of two. There, he was mentally abused and neglected by the foster mother. Concerned for the safety of the children still living there, Benito filed a complaint with the highest disciplinary tribunal in youth care.

The verdict was the most severe measure: the foster mother's registration as a youth caretaker was declared void, and she was not allowed to work as a foster mother any longer.

Here, the story could have ended. But our investigation revealed that the foster mother remained in position, although it was over a year after the verdict. Moreover, the regional foster care organisation, responsible for placing children, actively sought ways to keep the home open. Shocking and unacceptable, experts tell Argos. Children who need care, are placed in an unsafe environment.

For this report, also the broader scope of these "Group foster homes" was investigated. This is a family home where the foster parents are fulltime paid professionals. This relatively new form of care grows rapidly in the Netherlands. In Belgium it's starting. But it is full of risks, experts say. Group foster homes are relatively easy to start, and attractive due to high payment, but difficult to control on quality. More critical situations have been detected.

This investigation had a significant impact. Benito's foster house was finally closed. And the issues raised by Argos were acknowledged by the responsible minister nationally, and by local politicians.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation of the Year

AUDIO INVESTIGATION

THE ESCORT SCAM – SHE WEARS A MASK

This podcast series examines the double life of Margretha van de Laar. Journalists Klaas den Tek and Jerry Vermanen reveal the harsh practices of the owner of the largest escort agency in the Netherlands. Margretha van de Laar scored a big hit as a singer, won international dance competitions and is the owner of the largest escort company in the Netherlands. Her first two claims are quickly debunked, and the escort company also appears to be based on lies and fraud. Behind the singing, dancing facade there appears to be a tough exploiter who extorts the clients of her escort company and withholds the money from her staff. Nevertheless, she remained active with her company for years, both in the Netherlands and in Belgium – where Van de Laar was eventually arrested.

The series is based on a large number of interviews and extensive digital research into Van de Laar's company. Journalists Klaas and Jerry speak to former employees and customers to find out what went wrong. During a visit to Nirvana's old office, they make a wonderful discovery. And they follow the lawsuit in Belgium that could have enormous consequences for Margretha.

All that research makes the podcast a fine piece of journalistic work, but above all it produces exciting and bizarre episodes.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

10

HET ESCORTBEDROG – ZE DRAAGT EEN MASKER

THE NETHERLANDS

Submitting organisation
KRO-NCRV

Contact
Marlies van de Meent
marlies.vandemeent@kro-ncrv.nl

Authors / Directors Klaas den Tek,
Jerry Vermanen
Sound Bram Kniest
Dramaturgy Marjon Moed, Evelien Veldboom
Commissioning editors René Sommer,
Evelien Veldboom
Producer Tharisia Koorndijk
Production company KRO-NCRV

Title of series Het Escortbedrog
Episode 1 of 7

Length 37 min

Original language Dutch
Published by NPO Radio 1
Date of publication 26 February 2024 at 06:00

11

TERAPIA
POLAND

THERAPY

Submitting organisation
Polish Radio of Pomerania
and Kuyavy – Radio PiK

Contact
Żaneta Walentyn
zanetawalentyn@radiopik.pl

Author / Director Żaneta Walentyn
Sound Żaneta Walentyn, Marek Rzepa
Commissioning editor Cezary Wojtczak
Production company Radio PiK

Length 32 min

Original language Polish
Published by Radio PiK
Date of publication 2 June 2024 at 20:10

"Oh, you see, here comes my son, he is looking for help, and in two hours he will commit suicide" – says the mother of 22-year-old Piotr, who hanged himself in an addiction treatment centre. This is how the story of the search for the cause of why three people died in this centre within six months begins. The first death occurred during detox, the next two were suicides. Why? What happened in this centre that should have helped its patients rather than kill them – the journalist asks. She reaches out to the families of the deceased, who do not understand what could have happened in a luxurious commercial addiction treatment centre. Żaneta Walentyn's investigation also uncovers patients who left the centre because they were very dissatisfied with the therapy. In court, however, the prosecutor concludes that no one caused the patients' deaths and therefore discontinues the investigation. The commission appointed by the 'voivode' to investigate the matter sees the matter differently and accuses the centre's employees of numerous negligences. What shocks the commission members the most, is the fact that the centre did not keep medical records of patients, instead therapists shared information about patients on WhatsApp. It also turns out that 'fictitious' doctors also worked the resort. The journalist reaches one of them. He is actually the head of psychiatry at a nearby hospital. He admits that he advertised the centre, but he practically did not work there. What's next?

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation of the Year

AUDIO INVESTIGATION

DISTRESS – SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS

In this first episode the working conditions within the Swedish diving industry are investigated, sparked by the tragic death of diver Pär Erlandsson in the Gothenburg archipelago at the beginning of 2024. Distress reveals, through sources and research, the potentially life-threatening circumstances divers face through unnecessary risks taken by diving companies, as well as a culture of silence where serious incidents are not reported.

The series combines innovative storytelling with meticulous journalistic investigation, utilising underwater microphones to create an immersive listening experience. Kaliber's reporters spoke with over a hundred professional divers, bringing to light numerous safety concerns. Regarding Pär Erlandsson's death, the series identified several safety issues, including faulty equipment and an insufficient number of divers present during the operation. It also uncovered that the breathing equipment Pär used had previously experienced ice blockages. Furthermore, it was revealed that serious diving incidents often go unreported.

All these issues would have remained hidden beneath the surface if not for Kaliber's investigative work. The Swedish Building Workers' Union has called for a ban on diving operations with only three-person teams following the series' revelations.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

12

ANDNÖD – LIVETS HÅRDA SKOLA SWEDEN

Submitting organisation

Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact

Johan Sundström

johan.sundstrom@sr.se

Authors / Directors Markus Alfredsson,

Ida Nordén, Ida Cliffordson, Fredrik

Ankersen, Alice Lundberg

Sound Melekeh Meyer, Göran Wiland

Commissioning editor Johan Sundström

Producers Johan Sundström;

Eskil Lundgren (Co-producer)

Production company SR

Title of series Distress

Episode 1 of 4

Length 30 min

Original language Swedish

Published by SR Channel 1, Kaliber

Date of publication 29 April 2024 at 10:03

13

AGENTERNA SWEDEN

THE AGENTS

Submitting organisation
Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact
Lisa Helgesson
lisa.helgesson@sr.se

Authors / Producers
Daniel Öhman, Emelie Rosén
Sound Jakob Lalér, Tor Sigvardson
Commissioning editors Lisa Helgesson,
Marie-Jeanette Löfgren
Producers Ylva Lindgren,
Emelie Rosén, Daniel Öhman
Production companies
SR, Ekot, P1 Dokumentär

Length 58 min

Original language Swedish
Published by SR P1 Dokumentär
Date of publication 6 February 2024 at 05:54

This investigative spy thriller shows that life sometimes is stranger than fiction. The reporters reveal that secret agents from Iran are suspected of having planned the murder of three Swedish Jews – and the Swedish mistakes that made it possible.

Despite the Swedish authorities and the government doing their utmost to keep it a secret, the reporters Daniel Öhman and Emelie Rosén manage to expose the suspected murder plot and how the Iranian agent couple tricked the Migration Agency into granting them asylum as Afghans, despite the Agency receiving warnings that the man in the couple was in fact working for Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps – IRGC, a notorious military and intelligence service.

The investigation reveals that the couple is believed to have acted as a sleeper cell in Sweden for more than five years. The revelations had a huge international impact and – according to experts – became a big problem for the Iranian regime.

After the investigation was first published the Migration Agency has stated that it was an incorrect assessment to grant the couple asylum based on their fake Afghan identities.

The reporters have also been able to ascertain that the Social Democratic Government never expressed any criticism of Iran, neither publicly nor diplomatically regarding this case.

The present foreign minister, Tobias Billström, has after publication contacted the Iranian foreign minister to express his criticism of the alleged murder plots.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation of the Year

AUDIO INVESTIGATION

THE PRISON: HUMILIATION – 'THEY THOUGHT OF THE CLIENTS AS ANIMALS'

A group of prison officers at one of Sweden's largest prisons, Skänninge, have been systematically abusing and humiliating prisoners. The revelation in the Kaliber investigative series hit the headlines like a bombshell in Sweden.

Many prison officers, inmates and relatives speak at length about a harmful and sadistic culture in the prison: Inmates are harassed, humiliated and abused by a group of prison officers. One recurring testimony is about the humiliation of prisoners during strip searches and that it has been well known way up the managerial chain.

Prison officers recall how they alerted the management to no avail. Prisoners tell us how the humiliating treatment has left deep scars. Not only have they been mentally harmed, but they also feel hatred towards society's institutions.

Research shows these risks have major consequences for society when prisoners are damaged instead of receiving care, and it makes it more difficult for them to adapt to society after serving their sentence.

It also increases the risk of repeat offending.

In addition, the investigation reveals that staff who blow the whistle are subjected to bullying, racism and harassment by their colleagues. Several of them say they lost their job after trying to raise the alarm about abuses.

Despite management knowing about some of the problems for over a year, they are still ongoing in 2024.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation of the Year

14

ANSTALTEN: FÖRNE- RINGEN – "DE TÄNKTE PÅ KLIENTERNA SOM DJUR"

SWEDEN

Submitting organisation
Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact
Annika H Eriksson
annika.h.eriksson@sverigesradio.se

Authors / Directors
Ola Sandstig, Frida Grönholm
Sound Ola Sandstig, Frida Grönholm
Dramaturgy Ola Sandstig, Frida Grönholm
Commissioning editor Annika H Eriksson
Producer Annika H Eriksson
Production company SR

Length 30 min

Original language Swedish
Published by SR Channel 1
Date of publication 15 April 2024 at 10:03

15

DANGEROUS JOURNEYS

UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation
British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC

Contact
Sue Mitchell
sue.mitchell@bbc.co.uk

Author Sue Mitchell
Director Joel Moors
Sound Tom Brignell
Commissioning editor Daniel Clarke
Producers Sue Mitchell,
Joel Moors, Winifred Robinson
Production company BBC

Title of series To Catch a Scorpion
Episode 1 of 9

Length 33 min

Original language English
Published by BBC Radio 4
Date of publication 3 May 2024 at 09:30

DANGEROUS JOURNEYS

This series sets out to find and confront one of the world's most wanted people smugglers.

Investigative journalist Sue Mitchell and former soldier Rob Lawrie set out with just a codename – 'Scorpion' – for a gang leader responsible for thousands of dangerous migrant crossings. Under his real name, Barzan Majid had escaped arrest in 2022 and received a 10-year prison sentence but remained at large.

Each episode details how Sue and Rob went about locating him, using contacts in camps, informants in Scorpion's criminal gang and uncovering new evidence linking Majid to deaths in the Mediterranean Sea.

The trail led across Europe through France, Belgium and Italy to Turkey and Northern Iraq – where Sue and Rob finally meet and confront Scorpion.

In person, Majid admitted smuggling thousands of migrants into the UK and was without remorse. He believed he was beyond the reach of authorities in Iraq or elsewhere. The series generated massive news coverage – including every UK newspaper – and highlighted a lack of international cooperation in dealing with people smugglers.

Based on the series, the Deputy Prime Minister of Kurdish Iraq instructed police to arrest Barzan Majeed for people-trafficking crimes: a move widely reported in the media and welcomed by families of victims desperate for justice.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

AUDIO INVESTIGATION

THREE MILLION

The Bengal famine of 1943, during World War Two, is one of the darkest and most contested chapters in modern British history. It complicates how we remember our war story, and its heroes – like the wartime Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Around three million Indians, who were British subjects, died. It is one of the largest losses of civilian life on the Allied side, yet there is no memorial, or even a plaque, anywhere in the world. How can the memory of three million people disappear?

The series forensically pieces together this complex and fraught history that is at the heart of modern day culture wars. For the first time ever, the story of the Bengal famine is told not by the decision-makers but by eyewitnesses and survivors, writing back into history their experiences. It's a race against time, as it's now 80 years on. Nearly all the testimony has never been broadcast before.

We invite the listener into our process, so they join us in the investigation: tracking down the last remaining eyewitnesses, on the quest in the archive, making new discoveries, and excavating overlooked histories, and probing into why remembrance is so complicated today.

This is a story of war, empire, who gets to tell history, and how a nation comes to terms with a difficult past today. It has opened up discussion in Britain of this painful history. It is also a lasting audio memorial to the three million, even if it is over 80 years on.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Investigation Series of the Year

16

THREE MILLION

UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation

British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC

Contact

Kavita Puri

kp@kavita-puri.com

Author Kavita Puri

Director Emma Rippon

Sound Eloise Whitmore

Commissioning editor Dan Clarke

Producer Ant Adeane

Production company BBC

Co-Producer BBC World Service

Title of series Three Million

Episode 1 of 8

Length 28 min

Original language English

Published by BBC Sounds

Date of publication 23 February 2024 at 06:00

PRIX EUROPA 2024

Audio Fiction Category

Awards

- ★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Audio Fiction of the Year
- ★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

Jury Group Coordinators

Barbara Schäfer
Deutschlandradio, Germany

Gunhild Nymoen
Norsk rikskringkasting – NRK, Norway

01	Pale Hours / Blijedi sati	Austria
02	Night Flights	Belgium
03	When Night Rises	Belgium
04	A Woman – Anthem	Croatia
05	101 Minutes	Czech Republic
06	Happiness ASAP: Hustle	Czech Republic
07	"Mini pig"	Estonia
08	An Apple	Finland
09	Medea's Daughter	Finland
10	Blablas Island	France
11	The Fall of Lapinville – Podcast Therapy	France
12	Excess. A Radio Opera	Germany
13	Hard Land	Germany
14	The Lighthouse of Love	Iceland
15	And They Named Me ... Dientje	The Netherlands
16	Red Piste – A Storm Is Brewing	Norway
17	The Voices of a Shimmering Stream	Poland
18	The Penal Colony	Romania
19	103 Phone Calls	Slovakia
20	Bad Roads	Slovenia
21	A Night in Copenhagen	Sweden
22	Mio, My Son	Sweden
23	The Legacy	Sweden
24	Five Best Days	Switzerland
25	Franz and Felice	United Kingdom
26	(Limelight) Cobalt	United Kingdom
27	Money Gone – Insufficient Funds	United Kingdom

AUDIO FICTION

Timetable

MONDAY 7 October

9:30		Jury Group Briefing		
10:00	04	A Woman – Anthem	Croatia	54 min
11:00	22	Mio, My Son	Sweden	15 min
11:15		Break		
11:45	20	Bad Roads	Slovenia	88 min
13:15		Lunch		
14:15	01	Pale Hours / Blijedi sati	Austria	44 min
15:05	06	Happiness ASAP: Hustle	Czech Republic	21 min
15:25		Break		
15:50	26	(Limelight) Cobalt	United Kingdom	28 min
16:30		Start of Discussion		

TUESDAY 8 October

9:30	09	Medea's Daughter	Finland	34 min
10:10	17	The Voices of a Shimmering Stream	Poland	55 min
11:05		Break		
11:30	02	Night Flights	Belgium	30 min
12:05	12	Excess. A Radio Opera	Germany	54 min
13:00		Lunch		
14:00	18	The Penal Colony	Romania	29 min
14:35	10	Blablas Island	France	11 min
14:45		Break		
15:10	07	"Mini pig"	Estonia	31 min
15:50		Start of Discussion		

WEDNESDAY 9 October

9:30	27	Money Gone – Insufficient Funds	United Kingdom	28 min
10:05	24	Five Best Days	Switzerland	55 min
11:05	11	The Fall of Lapinville – Podcast Therapy	France	5 min
11:10		Break		
11:35	16	Red Piste – A Storm Is Brewing	Norway	18 min
12:00	08	An Apple	Finland	45 min
12:45		Lunch		
13:45	21	A Night in Copenhagen	Sweden	22 min
14:10	19	103 Phone Calls	Slovakia	58 min
15:10		Break		
15:30		Start of Discussion		

THURSDAY 10 October

9:30	13	Hard Land	Germany	25 min
10:00	03	When Night Rises	Belgium	49 min
10:55	15	And They Named Me ... Dientje	The Netherlands	8 min
11:05		Break		
11:30	25	Franz and Felice	United Kingdom	44 min
12:20	23	The Legacy	Sweden	19 min
12:40		Lunch		
13:40	05	101 Minutes	Czech Republic	49 min
14:35	14	The Lighthouse of Love	Iceland	30 min
15:05		Break		
15:30		Start of Discussion		

AUDIO FICTION

PALE HOURS / BLIJEDI SATI

The radio drama turns a car ride into a journey to the past, an oracle of deep family secrets.

Ivo has died.

In a country that is both near and far for the mid-30s protagonist Mira. In the middle of the night, in 1998, she and her family get into the car in Völkermarkt, a town in southern Carinthia, and drive to Bosnia for Grandfather Ivo's funeral. Mira fled the Bosnian war with her family as a child. Memories of life before the war and their escape as well as stories about arriving in a foreign country emerge between states of waking and micro-sleep. The war and the traumas associated with it haunt the father in particular – he seems lost, torn in two. His car doesn't just drive to the funeral, it drives through time, and the white lines of the road become lifelines.

A special aspect of this radio play is the protagonists' use of two languages (German and Serbo-Croatian). This reflects the linguistic reality of many refugees from the former Yugoslavia living in Austria and explores the limits of what German-speaking listeners can understand without knowing the words, based solely on the context.

The author was born 1988 in Sarajevo. She has lived in Vienna since 2006, she works as a journalist and writer.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

01

BLASSE STUNDEN/

BLIJEDI SATI

AUSTRIA

Submitting organisation

Österreichischer Rundfunk – ORF

Contact

Elisabeth Zimmermann

elisabeth.zimmermann@orf.at

Author Manuela Tomic

Director Andreas Jungwirth

Sound Elmar Peinelt, Manuel Radinger

Commissioning editor Elisabeth Zimmermann

Producer Elisabeth Zimmermann

Production company ORF

Length 44 min

Original language German, Serbo-Croatian

Published by ORF Ö1 Hörspiel

Date of publication 25 November 2023 at 14:00

02

NIGHT FLIGHTS

BELGIUM

NIGHT FLIGHTS

Submitting organisation
Minds Meet

Contact
Grietkin Deroo
grietkinderoo@gmail.com

Author / Director
Johanson (Philippe Verkinderen)
Sound Lucas Derycke
Commissioning editor Catherine Lekime
Producer Grietkin Deroo
Production company Minds Meet
Co-producer VRT MAX

Title of series Night Flights
Episode 1 of 7

Length 30 min
Original language Dutch
Published by VRT MAX
Date of publication 2 January 2024 at 08:00

These are confusing times for Brussels student of literature Alexi Spaak (22). While she is in a relationship with the conservative Olivier Delcroix (24), one of the university's most popular students, her heart lies with someone else: her literature professor Lukas Bloemendaal (44). He seems to be the only one who can give her direction in life. When their attraction turns into an affair, they both know there is no room in their lives to give their infatuation a chance. Until Lukas finds a way for them to secretly see each other: using a mysterious sound, they can magically meet – in a shared dream. Night after night, Alexi and Lukas meet up in an idyllic summer scene, an old house on the edge of a forest. But then Lukas disappears one night. When he also fails to wake up in the daytime and lingers in a deep coma, Alexi realises there is only one thing to do: go deeper into the mysterious dream world in search of her lost lover. Soon she learns about the hidden sleep universe known as the Somnium: a collection of villages and towns where creative sleepers meet nightly. In the midst of all that they cross Edward Borger (70): a dark business man who wants to use the Somnium to spread nightmares, thus making an entire population addicted to his anti-anxiety pills in the daytime. A plan in which Lukas proves to play an indispensable role. Will Alexi finally succeed in finding Lukas? And to what cost to her waking life?

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

WHEN NIGHT RISES

The world is not the same for all of us.
For some, the sun rises. For others, night falls. And for others still, it is the night that rises.
A factory closes, nothing exceptional, it happens every day. But the town is alive, it needs a heart to live and the factory that has just closed was the heart of the town.
A factory disappears, the heart stops, the lights begin to go out. When the last light goes out, night rises. People who can still walk leave the town and take to the road. Among them a father, a mother and their son.
They travel through an endless night, walking towards a light they sometimes glimpse in the distance, one they believe to be that of a new factory. A chorus sings their story; migrating men and women show them the way; the memory of a circus routine haunts them; insects are everywhere ...
Reaching a place where there is nothing, the father stops and refuses to go on. The mother fails to make him change his mind while he succeeds in changing hers; she decides to remain with him.
The son asks his parents to go on and to show him the way, but they refuse to do so for they have now realised that there is nothing they could give their son to help him find his way. They have finally understood what the night is: a night that, the father tells his son, is theirs but not his. Afraid of leading their son astray and despite his pleading they refuse to guide him further. The son finally goes on alone in search of the light ...

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

03

QUAND LA NUIT SE LÈVE

BELGIUM

Submitting organisation
Radio-télévision belge de la Communauté
française – RTBF

Contact
Pascale Tison
pat@rtbf.be

Author Gilles Aufray
Director / Producer Pascale Tison
Sound Vincent Venet, Adrien Pinet
Commissioning editor Pascale Tison
Production company RTBF

Length 49 min
Original language French
Published by RTBF La Première
Date of publication 20 May 2024 at 22:00

04

ŽENA HIMNA
CROATIA

A WOMAN – ANTHEM

Submitting organisation
Hrvatska radiotelevizija – HRT

Contact
Alma Pijaca
IR.radio@hrt.hr

Author Davor Špišić
Director Petar Vujačić
Sound Tomislav Šamec
Commissioning editor Lada Martinac Kralj
Producer Lada Martinac Kralj
Production company HRT

Length 54 min
Original language Croatian
Published by HR3
Date of publication 14 May 2024 at 18:00

The life of Paula von Preradović (1887–1951), Austrian author, granddaughter of Croatian poet Petar Preradović, as well as author of the Austrian anthem, gave the inducement to the dramatist Davor Špišić, to write the text A Woman – Anthem. Her life was molded by the turbulent historical events (the fall of the Austro–Hungarian empire, two World wars, the rise of two dictatorships), and therefore, the very intentions of the text itself develop on two levels – intimate and epic. The intimate level follows Paula from her childhood to death, while the epic one follows the drama of the historic period. The writer was inclined towards the metaphorical density within which the sign becomes everything – face, costume, props, didascalia – with the goal to concentrate the attention on the flow of history, and its relentless power causing victims, as well as the making of great characters and talents. Paula von Preradović was such a person and artist with every bit of her existence.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

101 MINUTES

The Prague underground carries one million passengers a day. Since its opening in 1974, it has been considered the fastest and safest mode of transport in the capital of the Czech Republic. Yet could circumstances come together to make its premises a trap from which there is no easy escape?

It all starts with a power outage and the whole city being paralysed by a blackout. Even the underground is in trouble. A train with over a hundred passengers is stuck between two stations. Two units of firefighters go into action and at the beginning it looks like it will be a smooth operation. But a fire starts under one of the carriages and it cannot be extinguished. Soon, the experienced rescuers are faced with a serious emergency. How to evacuate more than a hundred people from the tunnel without panicking? Is it true that a small child is missing? With only seconds to make the right decision, it's easy to make a fatal mistake.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

05

101 MINUT

CZECH REPUBLIC

Submitting organisation

Český rozhlas – ČRo

Contact

Nikola Bartova

nikola.bartova@rozhlas.cz

Author Lukáš Csicsely

Adapted from the book 101 Minutes

by Štěpán Kopřiva

Director Izabela Schenková

Sound Tomáš Pernický, Ondřej Gášek

Commissioning editor Renata Venclová

Producer Renata Venclová

Production company Český rozhlas

Length 49 min

Original language Czech

Published by ČRo – Czech Radio Dvojka

Date of publication 5 May 2024 at 20:00

06

ŠTĚSTÍ ASAP: HUSTLE
CZECH REPUBLIC

HAPPINESS ASAP: HUSTLE

Submitting organisation
Český rozhlas – ČRo

Contact
Nikola Bartova
nikola.bartova@rozhlas.cz

Authors Jan Dibitzan, Jan Jindřich Karásek
Director Pavel Soukup
Sound Ladislav Reich, Jindřich Kravařík
Dramaturg / Producer Josef Kokta
Commissioning editor Barbora Šichanová
Production company Český rozhlas

Title of series Štěstí ASAP
Episode 1 of 6

Length 21 min
Original language Czech
Published by ČRo – Radio Wave
Date of publication 31 October 2023 at 11:30

Work hard. Give your best. Hustle. Find your way, make money and be successful. Because success and money mean happiness. This podcast series follows a trio of friends, Thomas, Andula and Patrick. They have an idea to help the mental health of a generation and get fabulously rich from it. No more waiting times for psychologists! What if everyone could have their own therapist in their mobile phone and it would be personalised to everyone's exact needs thanks to AI? However, having an idea is one thing, finding investors, developing an app and bringing it to the market is quite another. Especially when ego, trauma, toxic workaholism and the desire to achieve success at any cost come into play. Thomas is a dreamer. He wants to be the fastest and the best. Sometimes he sounds like a motivational quote generator, but when he has a vision, he bites, doesn't let go, and he manages to get others excited. He manages to do that with Patrick; a shy programmer who recently moved to Prague to build a career. Andula is the definition of a girl boss. As a consultant, she has helped launch over twenty start-ups and she is a sought-after speaker at conferences, has no shortage of suitors, and doesn't get attached to anyone or anything. Can this mismatched trio get rich off depression and a mental health crisis? What are they willing to sacrifice to do it? This is a podcast series about start-ups, AI and hustle culture.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

"MINI PIG"

The story centres around characteristic Estonian squabbling and testing others' limits.

All seems fine when Margus and Kaire first move in next door to Kalju and Riin. Things change when the new neighbours get a mini pig. Urmas Vadi got the idea for the story from his wife. She met a couple on a nature trail who were seemingly calling out to their child:
"Come on, come to mommy!"

But instead of a toddler a mini pig emerged from behind the bushes.

The dense dialogue and witty twists and turns of this audio drama offer joy of recognition across an array of emotions.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

07

"KÄÄBUSSIGA"

ESTONIA

Submitting organisation

Estonian Public Broadcasting – ERR

Contact

Tiina Vilu

tiina.vilu@err.ee

Author / Director / Dramaturg Urmas Vadi

Adapted from the short story "Mini pig"

by Urmas Vadi

Sound Külli Tüli

Commissioning editor Laura Kalle

Producer Tiina Vilu

Production company ERR Raadioteater

Length 31 min

Original language Estonian

Published by ERR Vikerraadio

Date of publication 29 April 2024 at 19:05

08

OMPPU
FINLAND

AN APPLE

Submitting organisation
Tuomas Skopa

Contact
Tuomas Skopa
tuomas.skopa@gmail.com

Author Elina Snicker
Directors Elina Snicker, Riikka Talvitie
Sound Tuomas Skopa
Dramaturg Riikka Talvitie
Commissioning editor Pekka Savolainen (Yle)
Producer Kimmo Koskinen (Artlab)
Production company Artlab Productions
Co-producer Paula Salminen (Yle)

Length 45 min
Original language Finnish
Published by Yle Radio 1
Date of publication 28 May 2024 at 19:00

Why do people breed apples?

What is breeding? How to distinguish ethically correct refinement from fateful manipulation of nature? How can we handle ambiguity without simple answers?

A mother and her 10-year-old Jana – who experiences life in a multisensory way – are shopping for an apple tree. The child gets lost in the grocery store and stumbles upon an apple expert. Jana becomes puzzled about breeding: Why do adults want to transform everything that is already beautiful? Are apples actually failed roses? Why do mum and dad disagree on the purposes of breeding? Why can't people just live happily ever after?

While delving into these matters and trying to get a grasp of the complex essence of the world, Jana ends up in an elevator on its way to Hell, and also at the foot of a magic apple tree with Snow White and Isaac Newton. The work is a collaboration between composer Riikka Talvitie, sound designer Tuomas Skopa and playwright Elina Snicker. From the very beginning, the working group has explored the subject together, blurring the boundaries of authorship. The programme seeks radiophonic dimensions in manipulating voices and changing form from audio drama to a musical.

Content warning: the programme contains scenes that may be upsetting for some audiences. The language used concerning autism spectrum can be offensive. There are also references to the Holocaust, therefore discretion is advised.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

MEDEA'S DAUGHTER

The story is inspired by Euripides' play Medea, which is considered a feminist classic. Our Medea is a 16-year-old high school student, Hanna. She lives with her half twin brothers, mother Kajsa and stepfather Jacob. Hanna finds out that Jacob – who is also Hanna's teacher at school – has an affair with a colleague. The family will break up and Hanna and her mother Kajsa will have to move out. Hanna decides to get revenge. With a little help from her friends Hanna creates a fake online profile for Jacob and sends sexually explicit messages to female students. Will Jacob get suspended? Who will win the divorce battle and get the kids? Will Hanna and her friends get caught with the identity theft? Will the family get back together and will Jacob see the pain he has caused Hanna?

The drama series tackles the issues of divorce, power and social media hoaxes. Usually, children have very little to say in divorces, so we wanted to reverse this power balance. Hanna takes back the power she feels she lost with the help of social media.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

09

MEDEAS DOTTER

FINLAND

Submitting organisation

Yle, the Finnish Broadcasting Company /
Svenska Yle

Contact

Are Nikkinen
are.nikkinen@yle.fi

Author Are Nikkinen

Director Jessica Edén

Sound Niko Ingman

Dramaturg Matilda Gyllenberg

Commissioning editor Marina Meinander

Producer Marina Meinander

Production company Svenska Yle

Title of series Medeas dotter

Episode 1 of 3

Length 34 min

Original language Swedish

Published by Svenska Yle

Date of publication 13 October 2023 at 00:01

10

L'ILE AUX BLABLAS FRANCE

BLABLAS ISLAND

Submitting organisation
ARTE Radio

Contact
Chloé Assous-Plunian
c-assous-plunian@arte-france.fr

Authors Claude Ponti, Adèle Ponticelli
Director Sabine Zovighian
Sound Samuel Hirsch
Commissioning editor Sabine Zovighian
Producer Chloé Assous-Plunian
Production company ARTE Radio

Title of series Blablas Island
Episode 1 of 7

Length 11 min
Original language French
Published by ARTE Radio
Date of publication 4 July 2024 at 12:00

"Tonight, while you're sleeping, all of a sudden ..."

These were the ritual opening lines of the stories Claude Ponti told his daughter every night. Cherished by two generations of readers of all sizes, he is one of the pontiffs of children's literature, with 8.6 million books sold in France since 1986, including the must-have Okilélé, Pétronille et ses 120 petits and Blaise et le château d'Anne Hiversère.

Together, they have decided to make a fiction podcast for all children. The child who listens is the hero or heroine of the story. The child is plunged into a dreamlike world where the strange rubs shoulders with the wonderful. Over the course of the podcast's seven episodes, he lives an adventure full of suspense and twists and turns, and battles a horrifyingly nasty monster, to save the dreams of all the children in the world. The child and his plump Doudou will meet: a turtle-snacker, a pair of sewing birds, a chubby Sakatou, a magic flower, a small volcano ... and the Blablas who are trying to regain their freedom and their voice. A tale based on the singular voices and compositions of singer and musician Camille. Each episode ends with a moment of calm: the child, who has listened to the story with his parents, can fall asleep happy, relaxed and ready for wonderful dreams.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

THE FALL OF LAPINVILLE – PODCAST THERAPY

No longer eligible to claim benefits for his narcissistic personality disorder, Lapin tells the story of his move back to Lapinville and his decision to make a podcast to take revenge on his former classmates. He is soon joined by Chloé Bloomington, a movie star taken down by an enormous shitstorm that forces her to return to her hometown to act in a lame soap opera.

And then there is Spiruline, the resourceful city hall intern, whose investigations reveal previously unsuspected scandals in Lapinville's corridors of power.

One by one, the town's inhabitants testify in order to understand how, one thing leading to another, they wound up provoking the destruction of the planet. The intertwined threads of their fates form a ball that is visible from space, which this series gradually unravels in daily 5-minute episodes.

An epic, heart-stopping chronicle of the ongoing catastrophe and of its most unexpected ramifications, The Fall of Lapinville might best be described as a yellow-vest take on the The Simpsons, or the evil twin of The Young and the Restless.

In this episode, Lapin, a washed-up narcissistic pervert, loses his means of livelihood: his parents cut off his financial support, and he is no longer eligible for his disability benefits. He is then offered the chance to participate in a strange "podcast therapy" programme to demonstrate his efforts at reintegration ...

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

11

LA CHUTE DE LAPINVILLE – PODCAST-THÉRAPIE FRANCE

Submitting organisation
ARTE Radio

Contact
Chloé Assous-Plunian
c-assous-plunian@arte-france.fr

Authors Benjamin Abitan, Wladimir Anselme,
Laura Fredducci

Director Benjamin Abitan

Sound Rémi Durel

Commissioning editor ARTE France

Production company ARTE Radio

Co-producers ARTE Studio, Virginie Lacoste,
Sahar Pirouz, Jacques Falgous

Title of series La chute de Lapinville
Episode 1 of 107

Length 5 min

Original language French

Published by ARTE Radio

Date of publication 5 February 2024 at 06:00

12

EXZESS.
EINE RADIO-OPER
GERMANY

EXCESS. A RADIO OPERA

Submitting organisation
Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg – rbb / ARD

Contact
Juliane Schmidt
juliane.schmidt@rbb-online.de

Authors / Directors Noam Brusilovsky,
Tobias Purfürst
Sound Nikolaus Löwe, Ulrich Hieber
Dramaturg / Producer Juliane Schmidt
Commissioning editor Juliane Schmidt
Production company rbb

Length 54 min
Original language German, English
Published by rbbKultur
Date of publication 22 September 2023 at 19:00

Jessica and Brian are on a world trip and stop off in Berlin, the capital of club culture. They head to Berlin's best-known techno club. Every weekend thousands of guests from all over the world move together in unison to the rhythm of the beat on the club's dance floor. However, partying in the 'Tempel' is exclusive – limited access. The doorman decides who gets in and who doesn't. Filming and taking photos is strictly forbidden. Excess – from Saturday evening to Monday morning. Many of the party-goers have one end in mind – to "club to death" – and drugs are definitely a part of it. For Jessica this has fatal consequences. She dies of an overdose during the night. She suffers multiple organ failure before she can leave the club.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

HARD LAND

Love and death, a first kiss, first sex, a holiday job and mourning for his deceased mother – for Sam Turner, the summer in which he finally turns 16 is a wild emotional rollercoaster ride.

In his novel, Benedict Wells takes us to a small American backwater in 1985 and tells a touching, everlasting story about growing up, enriched with film quotes and lots of pop music from the time.

This is how Sam Turner begins the story of his summer holidays in 1985. In the small American provincial town of Grady, outsider Sam is looking forward to a boring holiday and his 16th birthday. The mood at home is pretty bad, so Sam decides to take on a temporary job in a small art house cinema. The Metropolis is run by the owner's daughter Kirstie and her two friends Cameron and Brandon. All three will be going to college after the summer and initially have little interest in the newcomer.

But slowly a friendship develops and Sam experiences a terribly beautiful rollercoaster ride of emotions. "Euphancholy" is what Kirstie calls the typical adolescent attitude to life between euphoria and melancholy. But then something suddenly happens that forces Sam to grow up from one day to the next.

Benedict Wells has captured the sunbeams of youth in his touching text and lets them shine brightly for us once again.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

13

HARD LAND

GERMANY

Submitting organisation

Hessischer Rundfunk – hr / ARD

Contact

Tamina Alonso Rodriguez

Tamina.Alonso-Rodriguez@hr.de

Author / Director Leonhard Koppelman

Adapted from the novel Hard Land

by Benedict Wells

Sound Ursula Potyra, Julia Kümmel

Dramaturg Cordula Huth

Commissioning editor Cordula Huth

Production company hr

Co-producers NDR, SRF

Title of series Hard Land – 49 Geheimnisse
vom Erwachsenwerden

Episode 1 of 13

Length 25 min

Original language German

Published by hr, ARD Audiothek

Date of publication 10 March 2024 at 22:00

14

ÁSTARVITINN
ICELAND

THE LIGHTHOUSE OF LOVE

Submitting organisation
RÚV – The Icelandic National
Broadcasting Service

Contact

Thorgerdur E. Sigurdardottir
thorgerdur.e.sigurdardottir@ruv.is

Authors Guðmundur Felixson,
Ylfa Ösp Áskelsdóttir
Director Eva Halldóra Guðmundsdóttir
Sound Gísli Kjaran Kristjánsson
Commissioning editor
Thorgerdur E. Sigurdardottir
Producer Thorgerdur E. Sigurdardottir
Production company RÚV

Title of series The Lighthouse of Love
Episode 1 of 5

Length 30 min

Original language Icelandic

Published by RÚV Rás 1

Date of publication 13 July 2024 at 10:15

This podcast about relationships is hosted by the self-proclaimed therapist Jónína Guðmann.

Jónína invites couples who need more balance and management in their everyday lives to her show where she attempts to find solutions to the (often common) problems they are dealing with in their lives, juggling their careers and family lives and sometimes forgetting the importance of love in the process. It can be hard to find time and energy to navigate your ship through the sea of love, as Jónína might put it, she's an avid fan of maritime metaphors.

She uses practical exercises and conversations to try to find workable solutions to the problems facing her clients but she tends to mess things up and make it all about herself. She doesn't really know how to go beyond the clichés and she gets distracted by the smallest details, forgetting about the big picture and losing any perspective she might have had in the beginning. She's not that good at navigating difficult conversations and complex problems, to be honest.

So why is she doing this? Is she truly interested in helping her clients, despite her lack of talent to do so? Perhaps. But what she seems to really want is a popular podcast with a relatable concept that can in time turn into a lucrative self-help universe with motivational lecture tours, published books and merchandise.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

AND THEY NAMED ME ... DIENTJE

Kwasiba is born around 1805 on a plantation in Demarara, a former Dutch colony. She enjoys playing with her brothers and listening to her mother's folk tales. Her life changes when her mother disappears and Kwasiba is sold at a slave market to a large plantation. After witnessing branding, she plans an escape with Yaya, another girl. Betrayed by Yaya, Kwasiba flees alone into the jungle and is rescued by a white man who takes her to the Marius family, a wealthy Dutch couple. Unaware of her origins, Mrs. Marius names her 'Dientje'.

When Mr. Marius falls ill, the family moves to the Netherlands, taking Dientje with them. In Kampen, Dientje integrates into the family, learns to read, attends parties, and excels academically, treated almost like their daughter. However, she faces racism from a classmate, Sophia, which challenges her sense of belonging and exposes her to the world's injustices.

Struggling with her identity and the romanticised view of colonisation, Dientje decides to return to Demarara. The Marius couple arranges her trip back with Mrs. Liesbeth. In Demarara, she stays with Mrs. Anna and Mr. Daniel, who reluctantly accept her. Dientje's plan to buy her brother's freedom fails, dismissed by a clerk.

She learns one brother has died and the other rejects her. Heartbroken, she returns to Mrs. Anna's house, where she is increasingly treated like a slave. Ultimately, she reclaims her name, Kwasiba.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

15

EN ZE NOEMDEN

ME ... DIENTJE

THE NETHERLANDS

Submitting organisation

BNNVARA

Contact

Solange Husson

Solange.husson@bnnvara.nl

Author Jeanine Cronie

Director Martin Rombouts

Sound Frans de Rond

Dramaturg Hanneke Hendrix

Commissioning editor Solange Husson

Producer Marissa van Loon

Production company New Tree Media

Co-producer BNNVARA

Title of series And They Named Me ... Dientje

Episode 1 of 6

Length 8 min

Original language Dutch

Published by NPO-Luister & Spotify

Date of publication 22 April 2024 at 06:00

16

RØD LØYPE – DET
BLÅSER OPP TIL STORM
NORWAY

RED PISTE – A STORM IS BREWING

Submitting organisation
Norsk rikskringkasting – NRK

Contact
Ingrid Torjesen
ingrid.torjesen@nrk.no

Authors / Directors
Gustav Lie Gundersen, Erik Goplen
Sound Kirsten Uhnger, Glenn Solheim
Dramaturg Gunhild Nymoen

Commissioning editor
Marianne Furevold-Boland
Producer Ingrid Torjesen
Production company NRK

Title of series Red Piste
Episode 1 of 6

Length 18 min
Original language Norwegian
Published by NRK Radio
Date of publication 22 March 2024 at 06:00

In an attempt to escape his past, Ludvig accepts a random job offer in the godforsaken ski village of Skvadalen.

When he accidentally runs over a lifeless person with the snow groomer, he teams up with a local named Astrid. Together, they navigate through a web of village politics, intrigue, and lies, all in an attempt to prove Ludvig's innocence before the storm clears and the police arrest him.

Ludvig and Astrid first try to identify the victim by making several fake calls to central figures in the village. When the phone in the victim's pocket starts ringing, they realise that the body belongs to the charismatic manager of "Skvadalen Ski and Mountain Resort". The one from all the radio commercials.

It seems the manager has several potential enemies in the village. But which one of them have motives strong enough to kill? And was it really just a coincidence that Ludvig's job offer placed him at the scene of the crime?

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

THE VOICES OF A SHIMMERING STREAM

This radio drama is about Sopot residents in the turbulent times of 1933–1945. The lives of German, Polish-German and Polish Jewish families interweave as the town, in its own unique way resulting from the mixture of cultures and nations it represents, experiences the birth of Nazism and then Communism. The town itself and its residents form the core of this story of love, betrayal, war, and the relentless steamroller of history.

Act One takes place in 1933, in the Free City of Danzig, of which Sopot formed a part at that time. We meet a German woman, Else, who is the object of interest of the Polish and German intelligence agents, and of a certain Italian artist.

Act Two, takes place in 1940 when Sopot is incorporated into the Third Reich, Else's romance is blooming and she seems to be completely unaware of the dramas happening around her in the shadow of the war.

Act Three, the most tragic one, presents Sopot in 1945, just after it became a part of the Polish People's Republic. The consequences of war affect not only the Germans, but also the Poles and Polish Jews, resettled from the former Polish territories in the east, now taken by the Soviets. It is the time of tough decisions which will have their impact on future generations. Can so many different cultures and so many different nations burdened with historical traumas, live peacefully together?

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

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GŁOSY SZUMIĄCEGO POTOKU POLAND

Submitting organisation
Radio Gdańsk S.A. w likwidacji

Contact
Piotr Skotnicki
leniwykuter@wp.pl

Author / Director / Producer Piotr Skotnicki
Sound Agnieszka Szczepańczyk
Commissioning editor Konrad Mielnik
Production company Radio Gdańsk
Co-producer Goyki 3 Art Inkubator

Length 55 min
Original language Polish
Published by Radio Gdańsk
Date of publication 26 December 2023 at 21:00

18

COLONIA
PENITENCIARĂ
ROMANIA

THE PENAL COLONY

Submitting organisation
Radio România – SRR

Contact
Oana Cristea Grigorescu
grigorescu2@gmail.com

Author / Director Mihnea Chelaru
Adapted from the short story
The Penal Colony by Franz Kafka
Sound Mădălin Cristescu;
Andrei Miricescu (Music)

Commissioning editor Oana Cristea Grigorescu
Producer Attila Vizauer
Production company Radio România

Length 29 min
Original language Romanian
Published by Radio România Cultural
Date of publication 26 May 2024 at 17:00

In the Penal Colony "Guilt is always beyond doubt". The play takes us on a journey to the penal colony, where the punishment system imagined by Franz Kafka in his short story of the same name is absurd and equally cynical. The Officer is the guide who leads us into the prison space, speaking convincingly about Judgment, Guilt, Conscience, Punishment and transferring to the listener the decision to validate the system or not. Thus the question is raised about political and religious significance about Crime and Punishment, about the judgment we often apply to others or to ourselves. This production proposes a dystopian vision of the world, of an undeniable topicality, as Kafka's novella reveals. A monologue, reduces the characters of the story, and gives to the listener the role of receiver and judge of the officer's speech. The decision whether or not to validate the extermination method, following the presentation of the killing machine, is left to the listener, whose conscience is thus directly questioned. The aim of the production is to reverse the audience's passivity, activating critical judgment and understanding the harmfulness of a passive attitude in the face of the excesses of the rulers. The denouement of the story suggests a possible solution of resistance in the face of totalitarianism by annihilating the torturer with his own methods.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

103 PHONE CALLS

The radio play explores serious themes and aspects of adolescence in an original way. It is a drama with elements of a thriller, which the author and director Ján Mikuš conceived as 103 short phone calls and voice messages.

He tells the story of a family who does not respond to the feelings and emotions of their teenage daughter. There are two main characters. One is Victoria, and although the play is about her, not even once do we hear her voice. She is 15 years old, often home alone, her father is a pilot and her mother a flight attendant. Victoria (Viki) is an only child, a straight-A student, she studies at grammar school, seems to be trouble-free, very active, learns several languages, and goes to tennis and gymnastics.

One day, her parents receive a phone call informing them that Viki has fallen off the roof of a department store. The story of what really happened starts to unfold. The second main character is her mother, played by Lenka Barilíková. This story focuses on the inner transformation of a family, especially the mother, who has to face her own fears and blindness regarding her daughter's adolescence.

A play about adolescent self-harm, the loss of mentors and role models, and teenage psychological problems that can lead to fatal endings. The script is inspired by true stories, and Ján Mikuš consulted both a psychologist and a psychiatrist during the process of writing about such a delicate topic.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

19

103 TELEFONÁTOV

SLOVAKIA

Submitting organisation
Slovak Television and Radio – STVR

Contact
Slavomíra Kubičková
interrel@rtvs.sk

Author / Director Ján Mikuš
Sound Peter Janák; Ján Mikuš (Music)
Dramaturg Mária Danadová
Commissioning editor Mária Danadová
Producer Ingrid Kontšeková
Production company Rozhlas a televízia
Slovenska – RTVS

Length 58 min
Original language Slovak
Published by RTVS, Rádio Devín
Date of publication 26 September 2023 at 20:00

20

SLABE CESTE
SLOVENIA

BAD ROADS

Submitting organisation
Radio Televizija Slovenija – RTVSLO

Contact
Karmen Kovačič
karmen.kovacic@rtvslo.si

Author Natalya Vorozhbit
Director Ana Krauthaker
Sound Matjaž Miklič
Commissioning editor Alen Jelen
Production company Radio Slovenija

Length 88 min
Original language Slovenian
Published by RTV – Radio Prvi
Date of publication 11 May 2024 at 22:40

The radio play depicts the raging state of war in the Donbas region of Ukraine, focusing mainly on the civilian population in situations where every moment of survival is changing. A journalist meets soldiers on a reporting mission which triggers an internal angle of evaluation in her; three teenage girls get involved in more or less dangerous relationships with Ukrainian soldiers; the roadblock where the principal of the elementary school, the commander and the soldier meet is a thin line on which new outbreaks are triggered, as well as a question of survival; a woman and a soldier are driving a jeep towards their destination – but their journey is much more than just getting from one point to another; a young journalist becomes involved with a soldier which raises essential questions about life; a small incident before the war foreshadows already present tensions and aspirations.

At first glance, unrelated scenes and persons in various situations related to the brutal war events, in the end form a rounded and atmospheric strong field of emotions, affects and unpredictable responses, which cause an aggravated situation in which the increasingly fragmented civilian community finds itself. It is not only humanity in relation to dehumanisation, common sense on the border with madness, and emotions in relation to dissociation that are tested, but also the setting of personal and value boundaries in relation to survival.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

A NIGHT IN COPENHAGEN

We meet a young man, Chuck, at a bar in Copenhagen. It is Friday, 23 December, and he is trying to recall what happened the night before when a man with blazing red hair, well-manicured nails and an unlit cigarette between his fingers approaches and asks if he can join him. The man's name is Anders.

They start to talk and Anders orders beer after beer for both. After a while he puts his hand on Chuck's thigh. It is mostly Anders who is talking, and he jumps from subject to subject while Chuck mostly makes conversational fill-ins like "Ah" or "Okay". Suddenly Chuck says: "Kiss me. I know that you want to." "Not here", Anders replies. And shows the way out to the narrow cobblestone alley behind the bar. They kiss. Chuck says that he is thinking of going back home to Malmö, but Anders suggests that Chuck can come home with him. It is not far from the bar, and they can have something to eat. "I'm actually a very good cook", Anders says. It is a suggestive drama about an intercultural date, erotic tension, and a verbal ping-pong match of power.

A night in Copenhagen is part of Swedish Radio Drama's series Transit, which includes eight stand-alone episodes based on themes of flight, migration, and emigration. Eight personal life stories where the listener gets close to the creators.

The author is from Nigeria but was forced to flee his country when homosexuality was criminalised. Since 2015 he lives and works in Malmö, Sweden.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

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EN NATT I KÖPENHAMN SWEDEN

Submitting organisation

Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact

Ulph Nyström

ulph.nystrom@sr.se

Author Jude Dibia

Director Manal Masri

Sound Mattias Miselli

Dramaturg Magnus Lindman

Commissioning editor Lola Zackow

Producer Drazen Kuljanin

Production company SR

Title of series Transit

Length 22 min

Original language Swedish

Published by SR

Date of publication 20 April 2024 at 07:00

22

MIO, MIN MIO

SWEDEN

MIO, MY SON

Submitting organisation
Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact
Marie Wennersten
marie.wennersten@sr.se

Author Daniel Karlsson
Adapted from the book Mio, min Mio
by Astrid Lindgren

Director Eva Staaf

Sound Frida Englund

Dramaturg Frida Derwinger

Commissioning editor Frida Derwinger

Producers Marie Wennersten,

Nasrin Mohamoud

Production company SR Drama

Co-producer

Filt – Krister Orreteg (Sound mastering)

Title of series Drama för Unga: Mio, min Mio
Episode 1 of 8

Length 15 min

Original language Swedish

Published by SR P4 & P1

Date of publication 18 February 2024 at 10:45

"Did anyone listen to the radio on October 15 last year? Did anyone hear that the police were looking for a missing boy?" As the story begins, we encounter a lonely 9-year-old boy, Bo Vilhelm Olsson, or Bosse. Bosse's mother is dead, and his father is unknown, and he lives with his aunt and uncle, an elderly couple who hate children, or at least him. He uses fairy tales to escape the cold and bitter environment at home as he dreams of a family like the one of his best friend Benka, where there is laughter, love, and playfulness. When Bosse is sent out to buy some crackers, the shop keeper, the wise Mrs Lundin, gives him an apple and a postcard. Bosse can't help reading the postcard and it is as if the words stand out in letters of fire. "To the King of Farawayland. The one you have long searched for is on his way. And he bears in his hand the sign – the golden apple". Suddenly, there is a muffled shrieking coming from a bottle on the ground and as Bosse picks it up, he discovers a genie inside of it. He lets the genie out and releases massive powers. The genie tells him that it comes from Farawayland and when Bosse hears that word, his heart is about to burst from longing. At first the genie thinks Bosse is just another child but when it sees that the apple in his hand is of gold it realizes that Bosse is the one that the king has been awaiting for nine long years. The genie picks him up and takes him to another world, to a land far, far away.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

THE LEGACY

In the first episode we meet Emma, who gets very upset during her first ultrasound. This leads her to see a psychologist at a psychiatric ward where she starts talking about her past.

Emma's boyfriend, Amir, answers a call from an unknown number and learns that Stig, Emma's former caretaker from her hometown, has passed away and left her an inheritance. Amir convinces her to go back with him to claim it, and they travel together to Hällero.

On the way, Emma falls asleep and has disturbing dreams about her childhood. She wakes up suddenly when Amir hits an animal with their car, which turns out to be a wolf.

When they arrive at Hällero, they find the gates closed and a three-meter-high fence around the area. Initially rejected as "outher people", they eventually get in thanks to Jerker, Emma's childhood friend. He persuades Emma to stay at least a day to attend Stig's funeral and talk to Karin, the leader of the mysterious cult in Hällero, about the legacy Stig left her.

Inside her old home, memories flood back to Emma, especially about Henrik, her brother who died ten years ago. She remembers their plan to run away together, which failed, and how she had to leave Hällero alone after being warned by someone named Ylva to "never come back." Now, Emma, who never thought she would return to Hällero, realises that she is back and needs to face her past.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

23

ARVET

SWEDEN

Submitting organisation
Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact
Samuel Sjöblom
samuel.sjoblom@sr.se

Author Tommy Håkansson
Director Sara Törnkvist
Sound Robin Af Ekenstam, Frida Englund
Dramaturg Magnus Lindman
Commissioning editor Lola Zackow
Producer Samuel Sjöblom
Production company SR Drama

Title of series The Legacy
Episode 1 of 5

Length 19 min
Original language Swedish
Published by SR P3
Date of publication 12 March 2024 at 06:55

24

FÜNF BESTE TAGE

SWITZERLAND

FIVE BEST DAYS

Submitting organisation
Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen – SRF / SRG SSR

Contact
Reto Ott
reto.ott@srf.ch

Author Erwin Koch
Director Stefan Weber
Sound Stefan Weber
Dramaturg / Producer Reto Ott
Commissioning editor Wolfram Höll
Production company SRF

Length 55 min
Original language German
Published by SRF 2 Kultur
Date of publication 3 February 2024 at 20:00

A couple say their final goodbyes. They have to, because the terminally ill woman has chosen to end her life through assisted suicide. They met late in life and have spent the last eight years together, but are now asking themselves: do we truly know each other? They have five days left to start over again – by sharing stories. Five Best Days is a compilation of fictional stories inspired by real-life accounts collected during the author's research. In the radio drama directed by sound artist Stefan Weber, these accounts converge into an in-depth exploration of the essence of life, viewed from the perspective of life's final stage. It's a demonstration of how storytelling can help us say goodbye.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

FRANZ AND FELICE

Meeting Berlin businesswoman Felice Bauer triggered Kafka's first real artistic outpouring: his breakthrough. Suddenly, in the tiny, cramped room next to his parents' bedroom – a room his parents would have to walk through to get to their own bedroom – the 29-year-old Czech insurance clerk wrote feverishly ... The Man Who Disappeared, The Metamorphosis, and The Judgment. Kafka lived and wrote in the shadow of his father – an abusive, controlling narcissist he was terrified of ("Everything I've ever written was about you."); the dark presence always ready to enter from the room next door.

So why, when the opportunity to leave home for Felice, did Kafka start sabotaging their relationship? Writing directly to Bauer's father, petitioning him against his own suitability, blackening his own name with Felice's friends, and when the First World War broke out, twice attempting to sign up – not from love of country, but for hatred of his own life?

An intimate and mischievously telling of Franz Kafka's most significant romantic relationship. Franz and Felice follows the twists and turns of the writer's relationship with Felice Bauer, how events in their relationship burst violently into Kafka's stories and imagination, and how his stories responded.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction of the Year

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FRANZ AND FELICE

UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation

British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC

Contact

Sasha Yevtushenko

sasha.yevtushenko@bbc.co.uk

Author Ed Harris

Director / Producer Sasha Yevtushenko

Sound Peter Ringrose

Commissioning editor Alison Hindell

Production company BBC Studios Audio

Length 44 min

Original language English

Published by BBC Radio 4

Date of publication 11 June 2024 at 14:15

26

(LIMELIGHT) COBALT
UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation
British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC

Contact
John Norton
john.norton@bbc.co.uk

Authors Eno Mfon, Darragh Mortell
Director / Producer John Norton
Sound Catherine Robinson
Commissioning editor Alison Hindell
Production company BBC Audio Wales

Title of series Cobalt
Episode 1 of 5

Length 28 min
Original language English
Published by BBC Radio 4, BBC Sounds
Date of publication 12 January 2024 at 14:15

(LIMELIGHT) COBALT

Maita goes to visit her dad for her 29th birthday, but he's not in. In fact, he is nowhere to be found, and there is something about his house that just doesn't feel right. When she finds missed medical appointments and a bill for what looks like a payment for one way ticket to Harare with Rwandair, she thinks he may have gone home Zimbabwe to die. He's been sending money there too. Thousands of pounds!

Then the police turn up looking for him. On reflection, it probably wasn't the police, and they are still parked outside the house, watching. Maita runs to find "Uncle" Bevin, Dad's friend who works with him at Newport docks. From Bevin, she starts to hear about a totally different version of her father than the one she knows – he was in the army, he fled his homeland, they called him "Stuntman", and now there is 20 million pounds worth of cobalt missing from Newport docks. What if her dad is in trouble? What if he needs her? And what if this mission is just the distraction she is looking for – she's almost 30, single, and she hates her job. So she jumps on a plane to Zimbabwe to go and find him.

Cobalt is a global thriller, set in Wales, Zimbabwe and Nigeria, a family story about a young woman with African and Welsh parents trying to find her missing father, and trying to negotiate her sense of "home". It explores themes of becoming an adult, families, migration, and the global economics of the raw materials that underpin our connected lives.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

AUDIO FICTION

MONEY GONE – INSUFFICIENT FUNDS

One minute past midnight, Valentine's Day 2025.
The UK descends into financial catastrophe and no one can access any money.
Pascal Cavalli is out trying to buy some Beaujolais when contactless breaks at the all-night convenience store. Cash points are down too. He checks the date. It's happening!
Ross Hammett is in luck. Word is spreading – nobody can get to their money. Play this right, and he could be sitting pretty.
But for some, it's the start of the apocalypse. Pregnant Grace has picked the worst day to run away and Chris needs to get his 10-year-old daughter home to safety.
The PM's stuck on a plane over the Atlantic. She's had three coffees, a cheeky vape and a briefing. Bank of England, the Federal Reserve, ECB – they're all reporting the same thing. It's not the interfaces that aren't working. Every single last electronic record confirms it: the money has gone.
Money Gone is a satire that explores the thin barrier between civilisation and chaos, and the gambles (such as Brexit and banking deregulation), that have made those barriers even weaker.
It's the agony and absurdity that comes from people trying to cope when the world breaks down, and how people who already have chaos in their lives might be best equipped to take on new challenges.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Fiction Series of the Year

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MONEY GONE – INSUFFICIENT FUNDS UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation
Naked Productions Ltd

Contact
Eloise Whitmore
eloise@nakedproductions.co.uk

Author / Dramaturg Ed Sellek
Director Tony Churnside
Sound Eloise Whitmore, Tony Churnside
Commissioning editor Alison Hindell
Producer Eloise Whitmore
Production company Naked Productions Ltd

Title of series Money Gone
Episode 1 of 5

Length 28 min
Original language English
Published by BBC Radio 4
Date of publication 26 April 2024 at 14:15

PRIX EUROPA 2024

Audio Music Category

Award

- ★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year
Under the Patronage of the European Broadcasting Union – EBU Music.

Jury Group Coordinator

Marie-Claire Doris
British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC, United Kingdom

01	Cobain	Czech Republic
02	Who Is Tessa?	Denmark
03	The Voice of Artificial Intelligence	Finland
04	A Matter of Interpretation	Germany
05	Polaks Schlagertalk	Germany
06	What Does a Picasso Sound Like? On the Relationship Between Visual Arts and Music	Germany
07	Remark – Būū Do You Even Know What She Is Singing About?	Latvia
08	The Pianist	Norway
09	30 Century Man- Scott Walker According to Magnus Carlsson	Sweden
10	Libba – The Guitar Virtuoso Who Resurrected	Sweden
11	Uniqueness or Provincialism of Past Ukrainian Music?	Ukraine
12	Between the Ears: Henry Mancini	United Kingdom
13	Legend: The Joni Mitchell Story	United Kingdom

AUDIO MUSIC

Timetable

WEDNESDAY 9 October

9:30		Jury Group Briefing	
10:00	06	What Does a Picasso Sound Like? ...	Germany
10:30		Break	
11:00	11	Uniqueness or Provincialism of Past Ukrainian Music?	Ukraine
11:30	10	Libba – The Guitar Virtuoso Who Resurrected	Sweden
12:00		Lunch	
13:00	08	The Pianist	Norway
13:30	01	Cobain	Czech Republic
14:00		Break	
14:30	12	Between the Ears: Henry Mancini	United Kingdom
15:15		Start of Discussion	

THURSDAY 10 October

9:30	03	The Voice of Artificial Intelligence	Finland
10:00	05	Polaks Schlagertalk	Germany
10:30		Break	
11:00	13	Legend: The Joni Mitchell Story	United Kingdom
11:30	07	Remark – Būū Do You Even Know What She Is Singing About?	Latvia
12:00		Lunch	
13:00	02	Who Is Tessa?	Denmark
13:30	09	30 Century Man – Scott Walker According to Magnus Carlsson	Sweden
14:00		Break	
14:30	04	A Matter of Interpretation	Germany
15:15		Start of Discussion	

01

COBAIN

CZECH REPUBLIC

COBAIN

Submitting organisation
Český rozhlas – ČRo

Contact
Tien Nguyen Mau
tien.nmau@rozhlas.cz

Author / Director Pavel Klusák
Sound Ondřej Ježek
Dramaturg / Producer Aleš Stuchlý
Commissioning editor Jarka Haladová
Production company Český rozhlas

Length 138 min

Original language Czech
Published by ČRo Czech Radio Vltava
Date of publication 5 April 2024 at 06:00

How do you create an engaging, original podcast series about one of the biggest pop culture icons in music? Can a music podcast intertwine the history of heroin, DIY culture, outsiderism, depression, and mental instability with media spectacle and third-wave feminism?

Journalist Pavel Klusák draws listeners into Kurt Cobain's story, from his teenage self-discovery to his suicide and the posthumous mythologisation and monetisation of his legacy.

Was Cobain a representative of Generation X? Why did sociologists link this generation with pessimism and cynicism? Nirvana's story offers valuable insight into the clash between the independent scene and the global music industry, a clash that significantly contributed to Cobain's torment and self-destructive moods. Through grunge and Nirvana, the music business learned to embrace rebellion, turning it into a commodity. Cobain symbolises authenticity and fragility, which the pop world of that time was ill-equipped to handle. Are we more sensitive to such creative personalities in the 21st century?

The podcast blends elevated journalism, authorial commentary, and docu-dramatic elements. Hear insightful commentary from a renowned Czech music journalist and various actors who bring unique auditory plasticity to Cobain's story, drawing listeners directly into the narrative. It aims to speak not only to those who grew up with Cobain but also to open and contextualise themes relevant to later generations of creators and their audiences.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

AUDIO MUSIC

WHO IS TESSA?

On an icy winter night in 2014, 16-year-old Tessa roams the streets of Vesterbro with a friend. Wearing hardly any clothes, the duo has just left a party but now find themselves with no place to stay. Desperation leads them to knock on the doors of random hotels and restaurants, hoping someone will take pity on them and offer shelter. All they need is some warmth and a few hours of sleep. But no one comes to the aid of the freezing teenagers, and they end up at a McDonald's, where they find refuge in the restroom, catching some sleep on the cold floor.

Such nights are not unusual for Tessa, a fiery-haired girl with fake nails who often hangs out in Christiania or at the Central Station. Nearly every evening, she embarks on semi-desperate adventures via the train network, heading wherever there's a party and a chance to crash on a couch.

But how does one end up locked in a McDonald's restroom just to catch some sleep? Why is Tessa, at 16, solely responsible for her own survival, while most peers are raised by their parents to attend school? And how does this teenage girl transform into a role model and spokesperson for an entire generation? These are some of the questions we explore as we ask: Who is Tessa?

A few years later, Tessa is destined to shake up the Danish music scene and captivate the nation, though she has no inkling of this future yet.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

02

HVEM ER TESSA?

DENMARK

Submitting organisation

Danish Broadcasting Corporation – DR (Sales)

Contact

Anna Risgaard Dahl

risg@dr.dk

Sound Jakob Franck Jensen (Designer);

Ole Fugl Hørklide (Editor)

Commissioning editor Anders Eriksen Stegger

Producer Morten Narvedsen

Production company P3 Podcast,

Danmarks Radio, DR

Title of series Who is ... ?

Episode 1 of 4

Length 41 min

Original language Danish

Published by DR, P3 Podcast

Date of publication 5 March 2024 at 06:00

03

TEKOÄLYN ÄÄNI
FINLAND

THE VOICE OF
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Submitting organisation
Yle, the Finnish Broadcasting Company

Contact
Pia Antikainen
pia.antikainen@yle.fi

Author / Director Eva Tigerstedt
Sound Anders Wiksten
Commissioning editor Karoliina Vesa
Producer Pia Antikainen
Production company Yle

Length 49 min

Original language Finnish
Published by Yle Radio 1
Date of publication 9 January 2024 at 11:00

You hear your voice speaking rubbish on a video you have never recorded. How come your voice is there?

You hear music composed by artificial intelligence, but it sounds very much like ...

Can artificial intelligence sing with others?

Curious sound explorer Eva Tigerstedt reflects on sound and music in a world of AI and generation. Or rather, the human world.

What ethical problems do the cloning and synthesising of sound and music pose, especially now that social media are spreading everything at the speed of a virus pandemic?

Artificial Intelligence can also be used for a lot of good purposes.

In medicine, the natural sciences and research, as a tool for, say, modelling and analysing climate, biodiversity loss, and so on.

And artificial intelligence can always be grossly misused.

This programme is mainly concerned with the generation of sound, music, and with some of the ethical questions in the AI – or rather the human – world. The author, Eva Tigerstedt, works in close collaboration with sound designer Anders Wiksten and the programme includes interviews with Max Savikangas, composer, and Anna-Mari Wallenberg, lecturer in cognitive science at the University of Helsinki. The AI-group of Yle (Data-scientist Mikko Lehtimäki, Tove Mylläri, Petri Karlsson) was very helpful in producing artificial speech.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

A MATTER OF INTERPRETATION

Every piece of music is a chameleon: the sound of a singer's voice, their phrasing, choice of instruments, tempo, and dynamics can completely transform a song's mood, sometimes even its meaning. In each episode of Interpretationssache, we delve into these transformations by exploring various versions of a song or classical piece.

Amidst all these variations, we also seek the constants – the heart of a piece that remains unchanged. We achieve this through careful listening, but also by unravelling the stories behind the music.

Take Tchaikovsky, for example. Despite initial rejection, he manages to premiere his first piano concerto. We narrate how it eventually brought him fame, and how pianists have kept his music vibrant for 150 years. Or Leonard Cohen, who spent years perfecting a song, only to find that no one was interested in his "Hallelujah". Yet, other artists eventually discovered the song and made it their own, allowing it to soar to new heights.

Then there's young pianist Consuelo Velázquez, inspired by a romantic melody from Enrique Granados, who tragically died trying to save his wife. Drawing from this melody, she wrote one of the 20th century's most famous songs: "Bésame Mucho."

Interpretationssache is not just about music; it's about the journeys, persistence, and passion behind each note – and how these notes don't tell the whole story; how music is made and remade by human beings, each leaving their unique mark and turning melodies into timeless masterpieces.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

04

INTERPRETATIONS- SACHE

GERMANY

Submitting organisation

Saarländischer Rundfunk – SR / ARD

Contact

Desirée Löffler

dloeffler@sr.de

Author Roland Kunz

Director Desirée Löffler

Sound Roland Kunz

Commissioning editor Desirée Löffler

Producer Desirée Löffler

Production company SR

Title of series

A Matter of Interpretation, Season 6

Length 30 min

Original language German

Published by SR 2

Date of publication 13 May 2024 at 00:01

05

POLAKS
SCHLAGERTALK
GERMANY

POLAK'S SCHLAGERTALK

Submitting organisation
Deutschlandradio / Deutschlandfunk Kultur

Contact
Sylvia Bernhardt
sylvia.bernhardt@deutschlandradio.de

Author Oliver Polak
Director Ralf Müller-Schmid
Sound Robert Hauspurg
Commissioning editor Raphael Smarzoch
Producer Veronika Schreiegg
Production company Deutschlandfunk Kultur

Length 45 min

Original language German
Published by Deutschlandfunk Kultur
Date of publication 21 March 2024 at 14:00

Jewish stand-up comedian Oliver Polak engages in conversations with German Schlager musicians, creating a trusting space where his guests feel comfortable opening up. These talks reveal intimate insights into the lives of Schlager stars and explore the multifaceted connections between Schlager music, society, and culture.

Schlager is more than cheerful melodies; it mirrors the German soul. Polak skillfully creates an atmosphere of trust, prompting Afro-Cuban Schlager singer Roberto Blanco to reveal himself beyond his public image. This allows listeners to gain a profound understanding of Blanco as an individual, transcending media portrayals. Polak's interactions with Blanco demonstrate genuine engagement, addressing significant issues like exclusion and racism with care and empathy.

The two do not shy away from conflicts, making their discussions gripping and insightful. Polak, as a sensitive host, consistently establishes a connection with his guest Roberto Blanco. Their dialogue exemplifies a central challenge of our fragmented society: the ability to tolerate differences and use them as opportunities to learn from one another. The appeal of this conversation lies in its development into a profound dialogue, offering listeners subtle insights into the mechanisms of the Schlager world. These insights, occurring almost incidentally, carry significant meaning and far-reaching implications.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

AUDIO MUSIC

WHAT DOES A PICASSO SOUND LIKE? ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VISUAL ARTS AND MUSIC

A picture is worth a thousand words – but what does music say about a picture? Visual art and painting have inspired composers and musicians for centuries. Pablo Picasso's famous anti-war painting Guernica is the most frequently set to music – there are 45 entries in the database of musicologist Monika Fink. And for some artists, like Paul Klee for example, sounds and colours are inextricably linked: They see sounds and hear colours. An ability known as synaesthesia, which Alexander Löwenstein also wants to stimulate in visitors to the Pinakothek in Munich with his sound mobile. Today, also DJs and artificial intelligence create their electronic sounds based on paintings. Simon Stockhausen is a musician and the son of electronics pioneer Karl-Heinz Stockhausen and visual artist Mary Bauermeister. With the help of a computer software, he has set some of his mother's works to music, which he calls "pixel music". And for you, the listeners of this documentary, he has developed an electronic piece of music exclusively – which picture was the basis for this, do you think? Image and sound have definitely more in common than one might initially think. Both can be analysed, constructed and copied using design principles such as symmetries, mirroring or inversions. But is it possible to recognise the underlying image from the music? Try it and join our quiz!

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

06

WIE KLINGT EIN PICASSO. ÜBER DAS VERHÄLTNIS VON BILDENDER KUNST UND MUSIK GERMANY

Submitting organisation

Deutschlandradio / Deutschlandfunk

Contact

Sylvia Bernhardt

sylvia.bernhardt@deutschlandradio.de

Author Julian Ignatowitsch

Director Matthias Kapohl

Sound Christoph Rieseberg, Lukas Fehling

Producer Anna Seibt

Production company Deutschlandfunk

Length 54 min

Original language German

Published by Deutschlandfunk

Date of publication 14 April 2024 at 20:05

07

**REMARKA – BŪŪ |
VAI TU VISPĀR ZINI,
PAR KO VIŅA DZIED?**

LATVIA

Submitting organisation
VSIA Latvijas Radio

Contact
Alise Petersone
alise.petersone@latvijaradio.lv

Author Klāvs Knuts Sukurs
Director / Producer Andrejs Siliņš
Sound Nora Micpapa
Commissioning editor Andrejs Siliņš
Production company Latvijas Radio

Title of series Remark
Episode 2 of 5

Length 37 min

Original language Latvian
Published by Latvian Radio 5 – Pieci.lv
Date of publication 27 February 2024 at 07:55

**REMARK – BŪŪ | DO YOU EVEN
KNOW WHAT SHE IS SINGING
ABOUT?**

This episode features the well-known Latvian singer Būū, who is one of the few women in Latvian hip-hop. She writes both her music and song lyrics. In her songs, Būū advocates feminist values, avoiding the stereotyping of women. She stands for freedom and emphasises that popular music should also highlight the perspective of strong and independent women.

During the episode, while analysing a song from the classics of Latvian pop music "Kad man vairs nebūs 16" (translation: "When I'm not 16 anymore"), Būū specifically points out that the lyrics performed by a woman were written by a man from his point of view, which creates a distorted image of women as strong members of society. This discrepancy underscores the importance of having women write and perform their own songs to authentically represent their experiences and viewpoints.

At the end of the episode, Būū writes a new verse for one of her songs, dedicating it to Aspazija, a significant Latvian writer and politician from the last century. This dedication not only honours Aspazija's contributions to literature and politics but also aligns with Būū's mission to celebrate and promote strong female figures in society. Through this creative process, Būū reinforces the importance of women's voices in music and culture, advocating for a more inclusive and representative artistic landscape.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

AUDIO MUSIC

THE PIANIST

This series tells the story of the enigmatic jazz pianist Maria Kannegaard. In her childhood, she began to hallucinate and see people that no one else could see. In her twenties, she was diagnosed with schizophrenia. Kannegaard was often compared to Keith Jarrett and was predicted to have a distinguished international career, but instead, she spent many years in psychiatric institutions. This is a beautiful yet terrifying story. It's an encounter with Kannegaard's unique music and deeply fascinating personality, a depiction of how schizophrenia can wreak havoc on a human mind, and a story of gross failure in psychiatry. It is a story about becoming mentally ill at a young age, about hope, music's healing potential, and about what it takes to fight back to life. The series is steeped in Kannegaard's music. Every sound except the talking voices, is her compositions and performances, from strange, experimental collages to beautiful, symphonic compositions. It is a podcast that opens the public to what music can be and the healing power of music.

Competing for the award
 PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

08

PIANISTEN

NORWAY

Submitting organisation
 Norsk rikskringkasting – NRK

Contact
 Truels Zeiner-Henriksen
 Truels.Zeiner-Henriksen@nrk.no

Author / Director Joachim Førsund
 Sound Marius Ytterdal
 Commissioning editor Truels Zeiner-Henriksen
 Producer Berit Folden
 Production company Gyldendal

Title of series The Pianist
 Episode 1 of 5

Length 214 min

Original language Norwegian
 Published by NRK
 Date of publication 11 December 2023 at 06:00

09

30 CENTURY MAN –
SCOTT WALKER ENLIGHT
MAGNUS CARLSON
SWEDEN

Submitting organisation
Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact
Gerd Björnung
gerd.bjornung@sr.se

Director Hans Ek
Sound Erland von Heijne, Mats Landgren
Producer Jens Braun
Production company SR

Length 57 min

Original language Swedish
Published by SR P4

Date of publication 9 May 2024 at 19:03

30 CENTURY MAN –
SCOTT WALKER ACCORDING TO
MAGNUS CARLSSON

In this piece, Magnus Carlson, one of Sweden's most beloved singers, will appear with the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra in a unique concert under the baton of conductor and arranger Hans Ek. The two have put together an irresistible programme around the artist and singer songwriter Scott Walker. You will discover both Scott Walker's own music and the music he has inspired. Many of these songs you will recognise, others you will fall in love with the first time you hear them.

The Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra is one of Europe's most versatile orchestras. Its repertoire includes the great classics as well as exciting new music and together with composers, conductors and soloists it constantly strives to break new ground and find a new audience.

The Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra have invited some of the best Swedish pop artists to a collaboration on a symphonic arrangement of their music. The artists include, for example, Zara Larsson, Lykke Li, Seinabo Sey, Måns Zelmerlöw and First Aid Kit. These popular concerts will not only be available at the Swedish Radio Concert Hall, Berwaldhallen, but also to millions of Sweden's 10 million citizens through the Swedish Radio channel P4.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

AUDIO MUSIC

LIBBA – THE GUITAR VIRTUOSO WHO RESURRECTED

The story of the life and fate of folk guitarist Elizabeth "Libba" Cotten (1893–1987) has gone under the commercial radar for decades, despite her great impact on the international music scene. Libba was left-handed and as a child she therefore learned how to play the guitar upside down. Soon she had to abandon her dear guitar "Stella" along with a handful self-composed songs – including the influential folk classic "Freight Train". Music that, according to all odds, should have stayed in Libba's hometown of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, United States. However, half a century later a little girl wanders off from her mother in the midst of the Christmas rush at a department store in Washington DC – something that will have unforeseen consequences. In the fall of 2023, musician and documentarist Catharina Jaunviksna set off for the US to travel in Libba's footsteps and find out who she really was, while there are still people left alive who knew her. What she discovered was that Libba is not only the protagonist in her own life story, but serves as a vehicle to tell a number of other important stories about US history and society. Hear unique testimonies from Elizabeth Cotten's family, contemporary music legends Alice Gerrard and Peggy Seeger, Folkways archivists, new influential voices such as Yasmin Williams and Dom Flemons and never-before-reproduced archival material.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

10

LIBBA – GITARRVIRTUOSEN SOM ÅTERUPPSTOD SWEDEN

Submitting organisation
RITE

Contact
Catharina Jaunviksna
catharina@tambourinestudios.com

Author / Director / Producer
Catharina Jaunviksna
Sound Catharina Jaunviksna
Commissioning editor Johan Klareskog Larsson
Production company RITE

Length 57 min

Original language Swedish, English
Published by Sveriges Radio – SR P2
Date of publication 13 April 2024 at 12:05

11

УНІКАЛЬНІСТЬ ЧИ
ПРОВІНЦІЙНІСТЬ
УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ
МУЗИКИ МИНУЛОГО?
UKRAINE

UNIQUENESS OR PROVINCIALISM
OF PAST UKRAINIAN MUSIC?

Submitting organisation
Suspilne Ukraine – UA:PBC

Contact
Anna Orlenko
a.orlenko@suspilne.media

Author / Director Liubov Huk
Sound Liubov Huk

Commissioning editor Albert Tsukrenko
Producer Dmytro Afanasiev
Production company Suspilne Ukraine

Title of series Unzip
Episode 1 of 8

Length 35 min

Original language Ukrainian
Published by Suspilne Ukraine Podcast platform
Date of publication 25 February 2024 at 12:00

After Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, we have observed a significant demand for Ukrainian music from the general audience as well as from domestic and international content creators. At the same time, vast layers of Ukrainian music remain unknown. The project aims to delve into the musical archives of Ukrainian Radio and reintroduce compositions, presenting forgotten Ukrainian music in a new format – from classical, jazz, and folk to the pop era to understand why some songs became true hits.

Each episode of the podcast features a host discussing a specific topic related to old Ukrainian music with artists. These discussions pertain not only to music but also to other art forms associated with it. Additionally, some episodes explore the political and communist influence on the formation of Ukrainian music and how music often became a tool of protest against the communist regime. During the presented episode, the project plays 4–10 snippets of unique compositions found in the archives, contextualised within the discussion.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

AUDIO MUSIC

BETWEEN THE EARS: HENRY MANCINI

An immersive dive into the life and music of one of the greatest film music composers of all time: Henry Mancini, who was born 100 years ago this year.

Mancini is one of the great icons of film music. His scores for movies like *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and *The Pink Panther* or TV shows like *Peter Gunn*, not only brought him Academy Awards and a glittering career, but featured songs and themes that have become instantly hummable classics in their own right away from the screen.

Alongside these seminal hits like *Moon River* or *Days of Wine and Roses*, and a reputation for 'cool jazz' Mancini was actually one of the most versatile composers in Hollywood. He pushed the artform in new directions and inspired some of the biggest names in film music today, from John Williams to Quincy Jones.

This *Between the Ears* tells Henry Mancini's story from his early life as the son of Italian immigrants in Pittsburgh where he was first handed a flute by his father, through his years as a musician in the Big Bands, learning the film trade at Universal Pictures, and eventually to composing some of the most recognisable music on film.

With recordings of Mancini himself from the BBC Archives, we also hear from his daughter Monica Mancini and son in law Gregg Field, both professional jazz musicians, film historian Jon Burlingame and pianist Tom Poster.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

12

BETWEEN THE EARS: HENRY MANCINI

UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation

British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC

Contact

John Goudie

john.goudie@bbc.co.uk

Author / Director / Producer Hannah Thorne

Sound Callum Lawrence

Commissioning editor Matthew Dodd

Production company

BBC Audio – BBC Radio 3 Production

Length 29 min

Original language English

Published by BBC Radio 3

Date of publication 10 March 2024 at 18:45

13

LEGEND: THE JONI
MITCHELL STORY
UNITED KINGDOM

LEGEND:
THE JONI MITCHELL STORY

Submitting organisation
British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC

Contact
Mair Bosworth
mair.bosworth@bbc.co.uk

Author / Director Mair Bosworth
Sound Hannis Brown
Commissioning editor Dan Clarke
Producer Mair Bosworth, Eliza Lomas
Production company BBC Audio

Length 28 min

Original language English
Published by BBC Radio 4
Date of publication 2 November 2023 at 16:00

A biography of Joni Mitchell in six episodes, released to mark her 80th birthday in November 2023.

Legend explores the life and music of one of the most influential artists of our times. A true pioneer, who has been making music for over 60 years, defying constraints of genre and pushing creative boundaries in a restless drive for innovation.

When a musician is held up as a 'legend' we can begin to see them as a sort of caricature; an icon on a poster. In this series we get to know the life beyond the legend and explore, in-depth, how Joni Mitchell created groundbreaking albums like Blue, Hejira and Court and Spark. Through scenic narration by musician and life-long Joni Mitchell fan Jesca Hoop, interviews with critics and those who know Joni, archive, sound design and original score by Hannis Brown (Ghost Story, Wild Boys, The 11th), we trace the story of an extraordinary life and explore what makes Joni Mitchell a singular artist: the genius of her lyrics; her incredible talent as guitarist, painter and producer; and her constant desire for change and new creative challenges.

Across six episodes, we follow Joni through the decades; from her 'flatlander' childhood on the Canadian prairies, to a redwood cottage in L.A.'s Laurel Canyon, to a cave in Crete where she lived for a time with a red red rogue. We hear from biographers and people who were there at key moments in her life about the events that shaped her into one of the most influential artists of all time.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Audio Music Programme of the Year

PRIX EUROPA 2024

Category for Digital Media

Awards

- ★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Online Media Project of the Year
- ★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Online Youth Project of the Year

Jury Group Coordinators

Kateřina Rathouská
Český rozhlas, Czech Republic

Tomas Lindh
Sveriges Television – SVT, Sweden

01	Ticket for Europe	Belgium
02	Directosaurus Rex: First Case	Czech Republic
03	Rescue them All	Czech Republic
04	Mystery Train – An Escape Game on Tracks	Finland
05	AI Manifesto	Germany
06	Hands On	Germany
07	logo!-Topic: The European Union (EU)	Germany
08	Cassandra – An Interactive Transmedia Experience	Italy
09	Latvijas Radio Fairy Tales	Latvia
10	Prebunks: Vaccination Against Misinformation	The Netherlands
11	Ramadan Bites	The Netherlands
12	The Bookmarker Club	The Netherlands
13	44.000 Shades of Gray – AI-mapping of Norways Nature Loss	Norway
14	The First Time	Slovenia
15	Until Victory!	Spain
16	Audio News Story Packages in SR Play	Sweden
17	Learn Finnish	Sweden

DIGITAL MEDIA

Timetable

TUESDAY 8 October

14:00		Jury Group Briefing	
14:30	16	Audio News Story Packages in SR Play	Sweden
15:10	01	Ticket for Europe	Belgium
15:50		Break	
16:20	10	Prebunks: Vaccination Against Misinformation	The Netherlands
17:00	07	logo!-Topic: The European Union (EU)	Germany
17:50		Start of Discussion	

WEDNESDAY 9 October

9:30	15	Until Victory!	Spain
10:10	08	Cassandra ... An Interactive Transmedia Experience	Italy
10:50		Break	
11:20	05	AI Manifesto	Germany
12:00	04	Mystery Train – An Escape Game on Tracks	Finland
12:40		Lunch	
13:40	02	Directosaurus Rex: First Case	Czech Republic
14:20	11	Ramadan Bites	The Netherlands
15:00		Break	
15:30	14	The First Time	Slovenia
16:20		Start of Discussion	

THURSDAY 10 October

9:30	12	The Bookmarker Club	The Netherlands
10:10	13	44.000 Shades of Gray – AI-mapping of Norways ...	Norway
10:50		Break	
11:20	09	Latvijas Radio Fairy Tales	Latvia
12:00	06	Hands On	Germany
12:40		Lunch	
13:40	03	Rescue them All	Czech Republic
14:20	17	Learn Finnish	Sweden
15:00		Break	
15:30		Start of Discussion	

01

UN TICKET POUR
L'EUROPE
BELGIUM

TICKET FOR EUROPE

<https://auvio.rtbf.be/media/un-ticket-pour-l-europe-un-ticket-pour-l-europe-3175576>

Submitting organisation
Radio-télévision belge de la Communauté
française – RTBF

Contact
François Jadoulle
frja@rtbf.be

Author Pierre Galhaut
Directors Luca Van Ecke, Arthur Gillet
Commissioning editor Mehdi Khelfat
Producer Nicolas Koussa

Digital distribution 50k views
(YouTube + RTBF Auvio)
Date of publication 31 March 2024

To help young people to better understand Europe, to confront them with problems or issues of European politics which really affect them closely in their daily lives, RTBF is launching a unique operation.

'A ticket to Europe' brings a young person towards a European destination to meet other people who share the same interests and issues, to discuss what concerns them on a daily basis and to form a broader opinion.

After a casting call launched on 'Mise à Jour', the RTBF TikTok info account, where nearly 800 young Belgians applied, 8 of them won a ticket to fly to a European destination. By receiving a ticket at the airport with specific clues, everyone discovers the destination to which they will be flying for 4 to 5 days to discover another European country. On site, the young person is encouraged to meet other people.

A new concept of 8x26 minutes between discovery and reflection intended for young people – and not so young – presented by Pierre Galhaut and available on platforms, on TV, on radio and on social networks.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Youth Project of the Year

DIGITAL MEDIA

DIRECTOSAURUS REX: FIRST CASE

<https://decko.ceska televize.cz/wifina/redisaurus-rex-prvni-pripad>

Roughly one-third of Czechs believe at least some of the misleading news, manipulation and disinformation.

It turns out that the best way to combat this is to teach children, even at a young school age, to work critically with information – even before they eventually succumb to fake news and disinformation and start to believe it uncritically. Directosaurus Rex tries to ‘gamify’ the issue of fake news by using a story close to the target group (children aged 8-12), i.e. the case of a school theft.

Directosaurus Rex (= player) is the experienced headmaster of a dinosaur school, who is concerned about its reputation. When an article about the theft of a mobile phone appears in the school's magazine, the headmaster must take immediate action. The article is fake news and accuses one of the students without evidence. The headmaster must prove the guilt or innocence of the accused.

The player walks around the school, collects evidence (in the form of character replicas or physical evidence – class book, visitors book, camera footage) and puts it on the notice board. To give the play tension some of the evidence is timed.

Once a player has accumulated enough evidence to be guilty or not guilty, he lets the case go to trial to verify if his assumption is correct. At the end, a chronological micro-story of the crime is played, including evidence leading the player to the solution.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Youth Project of the Year

02

ŘEDISAURUS REX: PRVNÍ PŘÍPAD

CZECH REPUBLIC

Submitting organisation

Česká televize – ČT

Contact

Kristýna Sedláčková

Kristyna.Sedlackova@ceska televize.cz

Author / Director Jakub Novotný

Commissioning editor Jakub Novotný

Producer Veronika Součková

Key staff Jakub Novotný (Game design),
Tereza Preislerová (Programming),
Jakub Mareš (Graphics); David Novotný,
Andrea Elsnerová (voices)

Digital distribution 74k players 2 months
after launch

Date of publication 24 March 2024

03

ZACHRAŇ
KOHO MŮŽEŠ
CZECH REPUBLIC

RESCUE THEM ALL

<https://decko.ceskatelevize.cz/zachran-se-kdo-muzes/zachran-koho-muzes>

Submitting organisation
Česká televize – ČT

Contact
Kristýna Sedláčková
Kristyna.Sedlackova@ceskatelevize.cz

Author / Director Adam Balažovič
Commissioning editor Adam Balažovič
Producer Veronika Součková
Key staff Diana Hendlmayer (Graphics),
Tereza Preislerová (Game development,
Level design), Jan Macháček (Sound);
Kateřina Hašková, Pavel Rímský,
Michal Holán, Marek Libert (Voices)

Digital distribution Freely playable on
ČT:Děčko website. Since launch 09-2023 played
300,000 times (second most played game at
ČT:Děčko page) 38,000 players/month
Date of publication 15 September 2023

As a chief of emergency services, it is your task to coordinate the work of the police, fire brigade and medics during difficult assignments. Put out fires, rescue people from crashed vehicles, attend to their injuries, interview witnesses and arrest the criminals. All this and much more will be up to you in our new strategic simulation game.

The thing we definitely wanted to stress was the need for cooperation of the emergency services. While each of them (e.g. policeman, medic, or firefighter) is very capable and can do tremendous things, it is only together that they can solve the whole emergency situation.

The game is primarily aimed at children of about 6-10 years old. Thus, it was very important to portray the situations both realistically but also sensitively. Children of this age love emergency services but at the same time we wanted to keep the level of violence and gore portrayed to a minimum. So, no blood, no deaths, and no active violent crimes.

The game features nine levels of increasingly difficult situations to tackle – from a family house fire to chemical spills at traffic accidents. There are also three tutorial levels, that teach the new player the basics of the game. Each level has a time limit in which it is necessary to complete all given tasks.

This project became the most successful new project of 2023/24 on our website with over 300k players since the launch in September 2023.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Youth Project of the Year

DIGITAL MEDIA

MYSTERY TRAIN – AN ESCAPE GAME ON TRACKS

<https://yle.fi/aihe/a/20-10006170>

Mystery Train – an exciting escape game teaches coding: Learning to code can be fun! The Mystery Train game offers young people an inspiring way to learn about coding and logical thinking. A hike turns into an adventure as the player escapes a storm into the shelters of a mysterious train. Lightning hits the train and it starts speeding uncontrollably towards Helsinki. The train must be stopped before disaster occurs!

The train can be stopped from the locomotive. To get there, the player must solve tasks related to programming thinking: write command lines and loops, and study database structures.

Fortunately, the player does not have to make the journey alone. The friendly AI robot, Topi, is always ready to help – and throw a sarcastic joke.

The Mystery Train game offers young people an inspiring way to explore the world of coding and logical thinking. Tasks encourage experimentation, making mistakes and trying again – just like real coding.

The game is aimed at 10 to 17-year-olds. It takes 20 to 60 minutes to play through it. The game is free to play and can be played on a browser with mobile or computer.

In addition to the actual game, a five-hour material package has been built for teachers, which makes it easy to deepen the themes of the game in lessons.

The Mystery Train is not just a game, but it is a journey that prepares young people for the future. It shows that coding is not only useful, but also fun. Step inside, the adventure begins!

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Youth Project of the Year

04

MYSTEERIJUNA – PAKOPELI RAITEILLA FINLAND

Submitting organisation

Yle, the Finnish Broadcasting Company

Contact

Anna-Leena Lappalainen

anna-leena.lappalainen@yle.fi

Author Mikko Lehtola

Director Joni Nieminen

Commissioning editor Jasmiini Lappalainen

Producer Anna-Leena Lappalainen

Key staff Antti Saarenpää, Annika Veteli,
Teemu Tanskanen

Digital distribution 270,000 page views

Date of publication 25 January 2024

05

DAS KI MANIFEST
GERMANY

AI MANIFESTO

<https://www.zdf.de/filme/das-kleine-fernsehspiel/das-ki-manifest-100.html>

Submitting organisation
Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen – ZDF

Contact
Gudrun Borenberg
borenberg.g@zdf.de

Author / Director Paulina Bietz
Commissioning editor Melanie Weimann
Producers Hannes Jakobsen,
Johannes Middelbeck
Key staff Sara Günter
(Commissioning editor ZDF),
Anabel Kuntze (Editing)

Digital distribution not available
Date of publication 27 May 2024

With the rise of generative AI, a new era of film history begins: AI delivers convincing texts at record speed, creates photorealistic images and videos in seconds, and makes it possible to replace humans with digital avatars.

What do these developments mean for those working in the film industry? Will scripts soon be created automatically? Will we still have real actors on set? And what are the legal implications regarding training data and AI-generated content?

For ZDF/Das kleine Fernsehspiel, presenter Collien Ulmen-Fernandes, along with filmmakers and AI experts, delve into the topic.

The 'AI Manifesto' is an extraordinary TV experiment: Four filmmakers lock themselves away for a day to discuss, argue and philosophise together about the future of the German film industry – with the aim of capturing initial thoughts on how to deal with generative AI in film making. During the course of the day, four AI experts join the filmmakers on this challenge, giving them insights into current developments and possible applications of artificial intelligence in the creative industry, and touching on technological, ethical, legal and creative aspects. At the end of the day, the four filmmakers draft a manifesto, for the future of film – the AI Manifesto.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Media Project of the Year

DIGITAL MEDIA

HANDS ON

<https://www.instagram.com/hand.drauf/>

This is an Instagram channel for the young deaf community in Germany. Every week, the deaf hosts Iris, Toma, Björn and Tobias answer questions that specifically affect deaf people: Why can't my teacher sign? Are we actually more susceptible to fake news? Why should we be really proud of ourselves?

At Hands on we talk about discrimination and disadvantage, but we also talk about courage, opportunities and identity. We offer a mix of information and orientation – short, to the point and, above all, understandable for everyone.

At Hands on, German Sign Language is the native language. The channel is made by a mixed team of deaf and hearing people. Above all, it is made with the community: The community is the heart of Hands on.

The community can and should have a say in everything that happens here. What do you want to discuss? What experience would you like to share with the others? What would you like to find out more about? Let us know! Our channel stands for diversity, tolerance and identification. We want to encourage exchange and discussion in the community.

The four hosts of the channel have very different backgrounds. In addition to Hands on, they also work in other jobs such as logisticians, bank clerks, journalists and sign language teachers. In that way, they also bring their personal experiences and thoughts into the project and create identification potential for the community.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Media Project of the Year

06

HAND DRAUF

GERMANY

Submitting organisation

Westdeutscher Rundfunk – WDR / ARD

Contact

Juliane Hermes

juliane.hermes@wdr.de

Authors Corinna Brenner, Julia Fressmann, Julia Minner, Lena Marie Hering, Nicolas Feisst

Director Juliane Hermes

Commissioning editor Teresa Bechtold

Producers Nora Holtgreffe, David Jayne

Co-producers funk – The Content Network from ARD and ZDF

Key staff Juliane Hermes, Teresa Bechtold, Pia Billecke (Editors); Laura Schulte (funk Partner Management); Melissa Wessel, Selina Kramer (Project management);

Toma Kubiliute, Tobias Hölle, Björn Marc Pfeiffer, Iris Meinhardt (Hosts); Lena Lange, Nicolas Feisst, Julia Fressmann (Community management)

Digital distribution Followers: 46,000, reach per day: around 11,000

Date of publication 1 July 2023

07

LOGO!-THEMA:
DIE EUROPÄISCHE
UNION (EU)
GERMANY

LOGO!-TOPIC:
THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

<https://www.zdf.de/kinder/logo/die-europaeische-union-102.html>

Submitting organisation
Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen – ZDF

Contact

Gudrun Borenberg
borenberg.g@zdf.de

Authors Katrin Hübner (Online),
Simone Klein (TV Project)

Director Simone Klein

Commissioning editor Carolin Zombik

Producer Andrea Vollmar

Key staff Constanze Knöchel
(Head of department logo!)

Digital distribution 3.8 million clicks per
month during last 5 years

Date of publication 5 June 2024

Getting kids to understand the significance and characteristics of the European Union and its member states is our mission. As a German news programme for children, we provide information about what is going on in the world, offer background knowledge and explanation in an easily comprehensible and entertaining manner. On the occasion of the European election, our aim was to provide our users with the total package of information about the EU.

A 35-minute film shows our reporter Simone travelling different member states and facing various challenges. She gets thrown from one funny situation into the next while exploring the European Union, its strength, the diversity of its member states and what they have in common.

An interactive map takes the children on a journey through the EU.

It presents hymns and flags of each country, offers fun facts and basic knowledge about all the member states.

On top of that, there are articles and short explanatory videos on different EU-topics. Our users learn about the European Parliament, the Commission and the Council. They can check how the EU was founded and what it is about the Euro, elections and legislation.

‘logo! topic page: The European Union’ is designed to show children that the EU concerns them, too and make it fun for them to learn about it.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Youth Project of the Year

DIGITAL MEDIA

CASSANDRA – AN INTERACTIVE TRANSMEDIA EXPERIENCE

<https://www.rai.it/raicinema/news/2024/06/Il-progetto-Cassandra--Cassandra-Project-3a5c4171-cc8d-4739-bfc4-b8672e749815.html>

Cassandra is a transmedia and interactive project composed of a short film published on RaiPlay, the first conceived and created through the collaboration between human and artificial intelligence – produced in just 10 days, including production and post-production, thanks to AI support in visual effects and also used as an ‘assistant’ and source of inspiration for some dialogues in the screenplay. There is also a customised ‘Cassandra’ themed GPT available online on the GPT Store of OpenAI with which users can interact by asking questions about the future and the short film. An Alternate Reality Game, a digital and interactive game that explores the complexity of human emotions, and the social profiles of the short film's protagonists on Instagram and Spotify round off the Cassandra project. It targets a young audience and emphasizes interaction with young students, offering them the opportunity to engage with the characters and the narrative universe of Cassandra through innovative digital platforms and languages familiar to them. The project was characterised by an asynchronous launch scheduled according to the various presented assets and events created specifically to promote them.

The ‘Cassandra’ project, presented by Scuola Holden and Rai Cinema, is the result of an innovative creative process developed within Holden. ai Storylab, the School's laboratory and observatory on Artificial Intelligence, created in collaboration with Rai Cinema and the Transmedia Lab of the University of Rome La Sapienza.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Youth Project of the Year

08

CASSANDRA – UN'ESPERIENZA TRANSMEDIALE INTERATTIVA ITALY

Submitting organisation
Radiotelevisione Italiana – Rai

Contact
Mariangela Borneo
mariangela.borneo@rai.it

Authors Riccardo Milanesi, Filippo Losito
Director Demetra Birtone
Commissioning editor Carlo Rodomonti
Producer Scuola Holden with Rai Cinema

Digital distribution 43,500 views on RaiPlay
target 18-35

Date of publication 27 November 2023

09

LATVIJAS RADIO PASAKAS LATVIA

LATVIJAS RADIO FAIRY TALES

<https://qrco.de/bex2Mg>

Submitting organisation
Latvijas Radio

Contact
Alise Pētersone
alise.petersone@latvijasradio.lv

Producer Agnese Bindere
Key staff Māra Eglīte (Head of Latvian Radio Theatre), Artis Cers (Technical Director), Agnese Bindere, Lelde Troska, Jurita Krūma, Ieva Aile (Project managers); Dzintra Matuzāle, Justīne Savitska (Content editors); Aigars Sukurs (Technical officer, Backend developer); Tomass Beķeris, Beāte Bērziņa (Design); Nora Micpapa (Sound editing), Ilze Zveja (Text editor), 'Efumo SSC' LTD (App developers)

Digital distribution Downloads in the first two months: 10,400 (Android); 6,320 (Apple)
Date of publication 29 April 2024

This mobile app offers on-demand access to a curated collection of 400 audio tales for young listeners aged 2 to 8. The app taps into the significant demand for children's audio content in Latvian—audience data shows that fairy tales consistently top Latvian podcast charts on third-party platforms.

In addition to tales from various nations, the app offers original works by both Latvian and international Authors, including 'Winnie the Pooh', the Grimms' Fairy Tales, and tales by Hans Christian Andersen. Tales are narrated by beloved actors, musicians, and athletes, including members of the Latvian men's national ice hockey team.

Latvian Radio Theatre has been producing fairy tales for over 60 years, and this app delivers the content to its listeners in a user-friendly manner. The app is designed with the understanding that the primary user will often be an adult, while the listener is a child. It allows for easy navigation; users can choose a title from a 'treasure trove' of classics, browse through a complete list of tales, find recently listened-to titles, search for tales by keywords, and add them to their list of favourites.

To help discover new tales, they are divided into categories understandable to both children and adults: miracle tales; tales of animals, heroes, dwarfs, tricksters, or devils; stories with happy endings; ghost stories; season-specific tales, and more. All illustrations are created using AI tools.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Youth Project of the Year

DIGITAL MEDIA

PREBUNKS: VACCINATION AGAINST MISINFORMATION

<https://pointer.kro-ncrv.nl/themas/misinformatie-en-privacy/media>

'Prebunking is probably our best strategy for winning the misinformation wars.' (The Washington Post)

Creating and spreading fake news has never been easier. With the advancement of new technologies and AI, the era when journalists were universally trusted is, unfortunately, behind us. Especially online for the young Generation Z, it is crucial to keep searching for new ways to tell our stories.

In the run-up to the Dutch and European elections, we do this through prebunking: 'vaccinations' against disinformation. The idea comes from a Dutch professor of social psychology at the University of Cambridge. The concept is to give people a preventive, diluted dose of disinformation along with the tools to recognize and counteract it. This helps prevent misleading information from being encoded in the brain.

Our social media Prebunks about Migration, Climate Change, Russia and Europe have garnered more than 2.5 million views and 15,000 likes, leading to intense discussions among Gen Z. They are also part of the interactive exhibition at the media museum Beeld & Geluid.

Examples:

Dutch elections (1 min.)

<https://www.tiktok.com/@np03nl/video/7296452093110455585?lang=nl-NL>

<https://www.tiktok.com/@np03nl/video/7298645596007566624?lang=nl-NL>

European elections (7 min.)

<https://www.facebook.com/pointerkro/videos/416525617919335/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pointerkro/videos/1604419006770739/>

Non-skippable ads on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@kro-ncrvinnovatie>

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Media Project of the Year

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PREBUNKS: VACCINATIE TEGEN MISINFORMATIE THE NETHERLANDS

Submitting organisation
KRO-NCRV

Contact
Ali Haselhof
ali.haselhof@kro-ncrv.nl

Authors Ali Haselhof,
Rosanne van de Leemkolik
Director Ludo Hekman
Commissioning editor Huub Floor
Producers KRO-NCRV, Pointer
Co-Producer NPO Innovation
Key staff Jos de Groot (Host), Berra Ganzeboom,
Lotte Notenboom, Peter Keizer, Gea Bruinsma
(Researchers); Sjoerd Niekamp,
Rens Polman (Camera); Eric San Giorgi,
Roy Schepers, Sjoerd Niekamp (Editing);
Mark Jan van Tellingan,
Charlotte Claessen (Design)

Digital distribution 15 sec. Prebunks: YouTube,
non- skippable ads on: 300,000 views per
video/7 min. Prebunks: Facebook: 75,000 till
125,000 views per video/1 min. Prebunks:
TikTok/Instagram: 100,000 till 300,000 views
per video Likes: between 500 and 2,000 likes
per video comment: between the 50 and 250
reactions per video

Date of publication 2 November 2023

11

RAMADAN BITES

THE NETHERLANDS

Submitting organisation
NTR

Contact
Patricia Greven
patricia.greven@ntr.nl

Commissioning editor Patricia Greven
Producer Marieke Peper

Co-Producer The Media Brothers

Key staff F. Elhannouti,
L. Ooms (Editor-in-chief); A. Aarab, A. Çöklü,
N. Akachar, MakiMagic (Director, Writers);
N. Akachar, O. Tajmout, A. Çöklü, S. Ahouaoui,
M. Abdulwahab, I. Delikaya, M. Ugurdiken,
F. Stofmeel, R. Bleij, A. Buringh, K. Akouz dame,
H. Benmira, O. Ahaddaf (Actors); A. Mussa,
N. Amhali, V. Ritfeld, S. Fighil, MakiMagic,
R. Fatehmahomed, R. Abouhayan,
M. Abdulwahab, A. Kübra Küpeli, R. Larouz,
K. Sabriye (Comedians)

Digital distribution TikTok: 8.1m views;
5.8m unique viewers; 17,000 followers; 363,000
engaged viewers; 365,000 likes; 51,000 shares;
26,000 comments. Demographics by sex - 47
percent male, 53 percent female; by age group - 30
percent 18-24 of age, 35 percent 25-34 of age
Instagram: 3.75m views; 1.065m unique viewers;
9,150 followers; 70,000 engaged viewers;
108,000 likes; 1,800 shares; 2,600 comments.
Demographics by sex 59,6 percent female, 40,3
percent male; by age group 24,7 percent 18-24 of
age, 33,6 percent 25-34 of age
Whats app: more than 9,000 followers.
Date of publication 1 March 2024

RAMADAN BITES

<https://themediabrothers.stackstorage.com/s/efJBewzSD61s35W4>

Ramadan Bites was launched on 1 March 2024, in the run-up to the fasting month that started on 10 March. Initially, we posted one video per day and increased the frequency to 2 or 3 videos per day during Ramadan. This new and successful digital platform offers a daily bite of comedy and relaxation during the fasting month. On TikTok, Instagram, and WhatsApp, you can enjoy hilarious sketches, funny interviews, and relatable videos for 30 days in a row. The content is created by a mostly Islamic creative team that also participates in Ramadan. This team is part of the same community we were able to reach. We feature short videos of stand-up comedy by comedians from diverse cultural backgrounds, funny sketches in collaboration with Islamic influencers, video clips with new lyrics to well-known songs, crazy questions answered by Nora and interviews in an old van inspired by 'Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee', but with comedians not getting anything and much more.

For our Special Edition during the Feast of Sacrifice in June, we were present for one extra week with very positive results. On TikTok, our total views now reaches 9.6 million, with 7.2 million unique viewers. On Instagram, we have accumulated 6.3 million views and 1.8 million unique viewers.

Later this year, we will be back with new videos to round up the year 2024.

<https://www.instagram.com/ramadanbitesntr/>

<https://www.tiktok.com/@ramadanbitesntr>

<https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaMHPRdJuyADpnCE>

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Media Project of the Year

THE BOOKMARKER CLUB

<http://www.npo3.nl/clublees>

Club Lees is an online book club by VPRO for a young target group (15-35). Club Lees is all about good stories, the love of reading, and what happens in the margins of a book.

The four main members of Club Lees are young, creative celebrity readers: singer-songwriter Naaz (25), filmmaker/poet Lemuel de Graav (25), actress Hanneke van der Paardt (27) and BookTokker Noah de Campos Neto (22).

The Club Lees app releases a free digital book (selected by the leading club member) every five weeks. The book is enriched with content by them, as an additional layer (a digital margin) that is accessible through the book: notes, remarks, links, videos, music or memes. It is like reading along in their personal, annotated copy. Short-form content on Instagram and TikTok; plus an online meet-up with readers accompany the release. The other three club members, as well as all the readers, can comment on the notes and additional content and discuss them right there in the margin. Readers can also invite their friends to start their own private small book club in the app.

After 5 weeks, the book, the notes and the comments disappear: the temporary nature creates a sense of urgency to join, a true shared reading experience.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Youth Project of the Year

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CLUB LEES

THE NETHERLANDS

Submitting organisation
VPRO

Contact

Annelies Termeer
a.termeer@vpro.nl

Author Annelies Termeer

Commissioning editor Willem van Zeeland

Producer Marjolein Klooster

Key staff Naaz, N. de Campos Neto, L. de Graav, H. van der Paardt (Club members); C. Maas, I. van Westing (Research, Editors); A.-L. Munsterman, H. Knieriem (Online editors); M. Klooster, J.-M. Blommendaal (Production); A. Termeer (Concept, Editor-in-chief), W. Mulder, T. Maas (Marketing, Communication)

Digital distribution by 14 June: 15,000+ app downloads, 576 small book clubs created, 17,500 Instagram followers, 2077 TikTok followers. Audience research amongst 35-target group: 95 percent would recommend Club Lees to others; 90 percent use the app for more than just reading (i.e. interactive features in the digital margin); over 50 percent agrees with the statement 'Club Lees makes reading more fun'. The small reading clubs work well: participants are more positive and more engaged than other users.

Date of publication 20 October 2023

13

NORGE I RØDT,
HVITT OG GRÅTT
NORWAY

44.000 SHADES OF GRAY –
AI-MAPPING OF NORWAYS
NATURE LOSS

https://www.nrk.no/dokumentar/xl/nrk-avslorer_-44.000-inngrep-i-norsk-natur-pa-fem-ar-1.16573560

Submitting organisation
Norsk rikskringkasting – NRK

Contact
Anne Linn Kumano-Ensby
anne.linn.kumano-ensby@nrk.no

Author Mads Nyborg Støstad
Director Anne Linn Kumano-Ensby
Commissioning editor Randi Helland
Producer Kine Henriksen
Key staff Su Thet Mon (Reporter),
Ruben Solvang (Data journalist),
Patrick da Silva Sæther (Photographer),
Kari Anne Gisetstad Andersen (Designer),
Sjur Seibt (Web developer)

Digital distribution 1 million views
Date of publication 6 January 2024

Despite its international advocacy for nature conservation – one of the most pressing issues of our time, domestically Norway lacks an overview of how much natural terrain is lost to development. Motivated to fill this information void, NRK's team employed an AI trained by Google to analyse satellite imagery, identifying changes from natural landscapes to build environments.

Through rigorous manual verification of thousands of sites, the team ensured the accuracy of the AI in depicting Norwegian ecosystems. This process resulted in a comprehensive map showing every conversion of nature to urbanisation over the past five years. Further, by cross-referencing this map against 20 different data sets on biodiversity and critical natural assets, the team pinpointed nature loss in areas critical for conservation.

Prior to this study, it was impossible to identify who was responsible for the most loss of nature in Norway, let alone determine which developments most significantly encroached on shorelines, peat bogs, wilderness or habitats of native wildlife like the wild reindeer.

This work led to a list of 44,000 major and minor construction sites, with precise coordinates and before-and-after images. The documentary offers the public a visual journey through the degradation, allowing them to see firsthand the scale of development impacting Norway's natural landscapes.

The project led to massive debate and calls for a reassessment of national policies.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Media Project of the Year

THE FIRST TIME

<https://skit.rtvlo.si/prvic>

This is a weekly documentary video, podcast and article series with 10 episodes that focus on intimacy, emotions and personal experience. Research shows that these are the points of interest of Slovenian youngsters that are not included in sex education. Each episode has its own topic that is discussed among youngsters. Special attention was paid to finding youngsters with different sets of values, backgrounds, and genders. Youngsters have been put together in smaller groups, and they discuss different topics and compare experiences by spinning the bottles and picking up questions.

In each video episode the host of the show invites another famous person, together they react to the youngsters' conversation and add some facts and their experiences on the topic.

In each podcast episode we can hear longer conversation among youngsters and a host that points out important information. Each episode offers additional information in a scientific article on a youth platform.

The project The First Time includes articles on the topic of the week that complement the video and audio episode. In the article readers can find additional information, links to related original content that has already been produced by the broadcaster RTV Slovenija and suggestions for discussion in the classroom or among youngsters.

10 topics of the project The First Time are puberty, sex education, broken hearts, sexual attraction, gender identity, feelings and mental health, pornography, consent...

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Youth Project of the Year

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PRVIČ

SLOVENIA

Submitting organisation

Radio Televizija Slovenija – RTVSLO

Contact

Rajko Gerič

rajko.geric@rtvslo.si

Authors Neza Prah Senicar, Urska Henigman

Director Spela Kuclar

Commissioning editor Neza Prah Senicar

Producer Urska Henigman

Key staff RTV technical and production team

Digital distribution live 21,800 viewers,
7,300 views on <https://365.rtvlo.si/arhiv/prvic-video/175022350>, podcasts 800 clicks

Date of publication 12 February 2024

15

IRABAZI ARTE!

SPAIN

UNTIL VICTORY!

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=eitb.irabazi.arte>

Submitting organisation
EITB Media

Contact
Miren Arruza Zuazo
iru.maz@eitb.eus

Producer EITB Media
Co-Producer EITBLAB, Pausoka, Alai
Argitaletxea

Digital distribution EITB Media
Date of publication 1 February 2023

This Basque-language series follows a girls' soccer team and expands across platforms like podcasts, interactive comics, and social media.

'Irabazi Arte' is not just a TV series; it is a full-fledged transmedia experience for a new generation.

- The multi-platform Playbook: 'Irabazi Arte' is available on TV, Youtube, the 'Go!azen' app, streaming services Makusi & Primeran.

- The podcast with Real-World Guests: The 'Irabazi Arte' podcast features the show's characters Arene and Nora interviewing real-life female athletes. They discuss sports, youth issues, music, and everyday life.

This unique blend of fiction and reality has been a hit with audiences.

- The first Basque Interactive Comic: EITB launched the first-ever Basque interactive comic based on 'Irabazi Arte'. This mobile app experience lets users engage with the story through interactive panels.

- Social Media Engagement: 'Irabazi Arte' is active on Instagram, TikTok, and the 'Go!azen' app, offering exclusive content, previews, and challenges to keep fans engaged.

Find it on:

<https://www.eitb.eus/eitbpodkast/aisia-fikzioa/irabazi-arte/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=el4qlXRWBL0&list=PLKE4WT5Uudh3LRjeumkkB3rwiuBRPeaBN&index=10>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=eitb.irabazi.arte>

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/komiki-app/id1614275923>

https://www.instagram.com/irabaziarte_eitb/

https://www.tiktok.com/@irabazi_arte

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKE4WT5Uudh3IG34NmjMD5O73amc6eB4W>

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Media Project of the Year

AUDIO NEWS STORY PACKAGES IN SR PLAY

<https://apps.apple.com/se/app/sveriges-radio-play/id300548244>

Swedish Radio focuses on digital audio on all platforms. However, a challenge has been to smoothly combine different audio types: live streams, news clips and podcast. With SR's news story packages all the best current audio content is offered in one coherent experience.

Centred around a selected topic, they are presented in an appealing visual form as well as an audio playlist. If you press play, the audio segments are played one after the other, of course with the option to skip and pause.

A good use case is SR's digital coverage of the EU elections. In the app, users were served updated clips, podcasts, graphics, and, not least, live broadcasts.

A lot of effort went in to explaining the elections to new audiences, featuring an interactive election compass and podcasts like 'Understand the EU Elections in a Coffee Break!' On election day, we showcased the full power of SR with voices from polling stations from north to south, as well as special reports from across Europe.

Our PSM mission is to increase understanding of the EU elections, to enable citizens to make informed choices. Our digital growth strategy aims to attract new users to our own digital platforms, and the story packages have been crucial in meeting both goals.

Audio is the easy choice for consuming news when you cannot read or watch. We are convinced that SR's exclusive story collections are key to meeting new needs, topical and always available in the SR Play app.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Media Project of the Year

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STORYPAKET MED NYHETSLJUD I SR PLAY SWEDEN

Submitting organisation

Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact

Olle Zachrison

olle.zachrison@sr.se

Author Olle Zachrison

Director Josef El Mahdi

Commissioning editor Kicki Pousette

Producer Linne Hellgren

Key staff Linnea Hellgren (Head of Front desk SR Play), Samuel Skoog (Visual designer Front desk), Josefina Liedberg (Product Owner)

Digital distribution During the week leading up to the EU elections, 379,000 unique units interacted with the front page which was dominated story packages. That means that they either clicked on a package or started the audio.

Date of publication 1 May 2024

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LÄR DIG FINSKA

SWEDEN

LEARN FINNISH

<https://www.instagram.com/sverigesradiofinska/>

Submitting organisation
Sveriges Radio – SR

Contact
Irma-Liisa Hoof
irma-liisa.hoof@sr.se

Author /Director Sammy Steen
Commissioning editor Edit Lindblad
Producer Edit Lindblad

Co-producers Sammy Steen, Edit Lindblad,
Jan Saaristo, Julia Stenwall,
Laura Santala, Ramin Farzin, Noora Holm,
Kim Keskisimonen, Elizabeth Lakso Pouliaki

Digital distribution 5,225 Instagram followers
(on 25 June 2024)

Date of publication 1 July 2023

Swedish Radio's channel Sveriges Radio Finska producing content for and about the Finnish minority community in Sweden nominates an Instagram initiative called #lär dig finska, which means 'learn Finnish'. The idea is to teach our followers Finnish in a fun way through words that are linked to our news, and headlines. There is a translation on the image, and in the caption, there is always a longer description of the meaning of the word. The images have a meme-kind of fun style to them. Short background to understand the meaning of the #lär dig finska initiative for our followers:

The Sweden Finns are a Finnish speaking national minority in Sweden and the main target audience of Sveriges Radio Finska. There have always been Finnish speakers in Sweden. Due to historical policies of assimilation Finnish immigrants in Sweden were not encouraged to speak Finnish after moving to Sweden, though. This has changed during the past decades and Finnish is now one of the national minority languages. The years of assimilation still show in the language skills of the younger generations of Sweden Finns, who either saw Finnish as a language of a lower rank than the majority language Sweden, or who were not even taught Finnish by their parents because they were advised by the Swedish officials to only use Swedish with their children after having moved to Sweden.

We hope that new generations discover even the other content we do through #lär dig finska: news, podcasts and radio broadcasts.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Online Media Project of the Year

PRIX EUROPA 2024

Video Documentary Category

Awards

- ★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Video Documentary of the Year
- ★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Video Factual Series of the Year

Jury Group Coordinators

Niels-Ole Rasmussen
Copenhagen Film, Denmark

Jan Maxa
Televizní institut s.r.o., Czech Republic

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

Programmes in Competition

01	Behind the Lines	Belgium
02	One of a Thousand Hills	Belgium
03	The New Iron Curtain	Belgium
04	Dakar Sistaz	Czech Republic
05	Who Will Save Alex?	Denmark
06	Rap and Reindeer	Finland
07	Against The Tide	France
08	Everyone's Business	France
09	Eternal You	Germany
10	The Viva Story: Ascension	Germany
11	Still in my Name	Italy
12	Burning Out	The Netherlands
13	Danny on the Spot: Westbank	The Netherlands
14	The Butlers	The Netherlands
15	A New Kind of Wilderness	Norway
16	Three Days on Natalia	Romania
17	Agony	Serbia
18	Prvič: Shock	Slovenia
19	Fauna	Spain
20	The War Has Changed Me This Way	Ukraine
21	The Bradford Aunties	United Kingdom
22	Whites Only: Ade's Extremist Adventure	United Kingdom

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

Timetable

MONDAY 7 October

9:30		Jury Group Briefing		
10:00	09	Eternal You	Germany	87 min
11:30		Break		
11:55	21	The Bradford Aunties	United Kingdom	50 min
12:45		Lunch		
13:45	19	Fauna	Spain	75 min
15:05	03	The New Iron Curtain	Belgium	42 min
15:50		Break		
16:15	06	Rap and Reindeer	Finland	73 min
17:40		Start of Discussion		

TUESDAY 8 October

9:30	08	Everyone's Business	France	95 min
11:05		Break		
11:30	01	Behind the Lines	Belgium	57 min
12:30	14	The Butlers	The Netherlands	27 min
13:00		Lunch		
14:00	17	Agony	Serbia	69 min
15:10		Break		
15:35	07	Against The Tide	France	93 min
17:20		Start of Discussion		

WEDNESDAY 9 October

9:30	02	One of a Thousand Hills	Belgium	81 min
10:50		Break		
11:15	13	Danny on the Spot: Westbank	The Netherlands	47 min
12:05	11	Still in my Name	Italy	53 min
13:00		Lunch		
14:00	05	Who Will Save Alex?	Denmark	32 min
14:35	04	Dakar Sistaz	Czech Republic	26 min
15:00		Break		
15:25	16	Three Days on Natalia	Romania	77 min
16:45		Start of Discussion		

THURSDAY 10 October

9:30	15	A New Kind of Wilderness	Norway	84 min
10:55		Break		
11:20	10	The Viva Story: Ascension	Germany	37 min
12:05	22	Whites Only: Ade's Extremist Adventure	United Kingdom	50 min
13:00		Lunch		
14:00	20	The War Has Changed Me This Way	Ukraine	45 min
14:50	18	Prvič: Shock	Slovenia	28 min
15:20		Break		
15:45	12	Burning Out	The Netherlands	85 min
17:20		Start of Discussion		

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

BEHIND THE LINES

In Idlib, directors Alisar Hasan and Alaa Amer introduce us to Amany Al-Ali, the city's pioneering female cartoonist. She empowers young women and challenges patriarchal systems with her art. Amid personal exhaustion and trauma, Amany faces the tough choice of leaving her city and loved ones behind.

Amany Al-Ali stands out as one of Syria's few female cartoonists, residing in her father's home in Idlib, the last city unconquered by Assad's forces. Like her remaining neighbours she's submitted to relentless Russian air strikes and caught between advancing troops and extremist groups. Despite acclaim for her art, she faces threats, condemnation, and degradation, causing her to contemplate leaving.

Ironically, her artwork has graced galleries in France and Italy but never received exposure within Syria's borders. The film captures her endeavour to organise her inaugural exhibition in Idlib. This experience compels her to confront the harsh realities of a city defined by bombings and male interference.

While organising drawing lessons for women and girls, comforting her young niece, and sharing her story with the documentary crew, Amany's outlook on the future gradually erodes.

"I am Idlib's first female cartoonist, but I don't want to be its last" says Amany Al-Ali.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

01

BEHIND THE LINES

BELGIUM

Submitting organisation

Clin d'oeil films

Contact

Elke Hertogs

elke@clindoeilfilms.be

Authors Vincent Coen,

Guillaume Vandenberghe (show runners)

Director Alaa Amer, Alisar Hasan

Camera Abdo Fayyad

Commissioning editors

Gudrun Hanke-El Ghomri, Ute Hoffarth

(SWR/ARTE), Simon Vrebos (VRT),

Isabelle Christiaens (RTBF)

Producer Hanne Phlypo

Production company Clin d'oeil films

Co-producers a_BAHN, Ma.ja.de.

Filmproduktion, Point du Jour – Les films du

Balibari, Real Lava

Title of series Draw for Change!

Episode 6/6

Length 57 min

Original language Arabic

Published by ARTE(TV)

Date of publication 6 March 2024 at 00:25

02

UNE DES MILLE
COLLINES
BELGIUM

ONE OF A THOUSAND HILLS

Submitting organisation
Radio-télévision belge de la
Communauté française – RTBF

Contact
Lucie Rezsöhazi
lcr@rtbf.be

Author / Director Bernard Bellefroid
Camera Gil Decamp
Commissioning editor Isabelle Christiaens
Producer Gaëtan David
Production company
La Compagnie Cinématographique
Co-producers Gaëtan David, André Logie

Length 81 min

Original language French
Published by rtbf (La Trois)
Date of publication 6 April 2024 at 22:50

Their names were Fiacre, Fidéline and Olivier.

They were 4, 5 and 9 years old.

They had no idea that in the world they had arrived in, being born was already a crime. Being born a Tutsi. Everyone knew them. And it was in broad daylight and in front of the whole village that their all-too-short lives came to an end in the spring of 1994.

The film tells their stories. The story of three children in the name of all other children. It unfolds over 30 years of history. From the last days of the children in 1994, through the eyes of those who tried to save them, but also through the Gacaca people's trials of those who exterminated them (filmed in 2005 by the film-maker), up to the question of reconciliation, which has become glaringly obvious as genocidists and survivors are back to living side by side.

This film is the story of a promise, never made and yet kept in the face of a grandfather desperate to learn one day the circumstances in which his three grandchildren were killed during the Tutsi genocide, on one of the thousand hills where the relentless extermination of a million men, women and children took place between April and July 1994.

Thanks to a relationship of trust that has been built up since 2005 with the men and women of the same village, the filmmaker gives a new lease of life to three children in the name of a million others. The story of a hill in the name of all hills.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

THE NEW IRON CURTAIN

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine caused a deep divide between Putin's Russia and the rest of Europe. But the new confrontation and rising tension also opened old wounds, especially for countries bordering Russia and had previously been behind the old Iron Curtain.

Traveling from North to South, along the shadow of the New Iron Curtain, war correspondent Rudi Vranckx collects stories of ordinary people who live with Russia as a neighbour. How do they experience the changing reality and increasing threats? How has the painful past determined their view of today, how do they see the future and what can we learn from them?

We embark on a fascinating journey across a continent that is actively bracing for future confrontations while bearing the scars of history. We travel from Norway and Finland through the former Soviet-occupied Baltic States to Poland and the border with Belarus. Via a thawing frozen conflict in Moldova, continuing to the coast of the Black Sea, we reach the Caucasian high mountains of Georgia.

In the first episode – Vardø to Helsinki – we start on the remote Vardø, a Norwegian island situated 400 km above the Arctic Circle, considered one of the most strategic places in the New Cold War. In neighbouring Finland we then discover the historical relationship with Russia, along its more than one thousand kilometres long border and learn how and why the Finns have been preparing for a new invasion for a very long time.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Factual Series of the Year

03

HET NIEUWE IJZEREN GORDIJN BELGIUM

Submitting organisation

Vlaamse Radio- en Televisieomroep – VRT

Contact

Franky Audenaerde

franky.audenaerde@vrt.be

Author Rudi Vranckx

Director Joris Vermost

Camera Fabian De Wilde

Commissioning editor Jan Vleugels

Producer Katleen Brokken

Production company VRT

Title of series The New Iron Curtain

Episode 1 of 4

Length 42 min

Original language Dutch, English, Finnish

Published by VRT Canvas

Date of publication 21 February 2024 at 21:20

04

DAKAR SISTAZ
CZECH REPUBLIC

DAKAR SISTAZ

Submitting organisation
Česká televize – ČT

Contact
Zuzana Černá
zuzana.cerna2@ceskatelevize.cz

Author / Producer Zuzana Kučerová
Director Jan Těšitel
Camera Vojtěch Vančura
Commissioning editor
Kristina Elšíková, Klára Vlasáková
Production company Frame Films
Co-producers Barbara Johnsonová
(ČT Creative producer)

Title of series Dakar Sistaz
Episode 1 of 3

Length 26 min

Original language Czech, English
Published by

Czech TV on [www.ceskatelevize.cz/
porady/15097438275-dakar-sistaz/](http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/porady/15097438275-dakar-sistaz/)

Date of publication 13 March 2024 at 00:00

This three part documentary series presents a unique insight into the world of cars and racing. It introduces us into the most famous race in the world, Dakar Rallye, a race which gives a lot and takes a lot. The Teenage twins, Aliyyah and Yasmeen Koloc, are racing in the men's world of motor sport and their fame keeps growing. In one of the most difficult of races, the Dakar Rallye, they intend to compete against the best competitors in the world and aim for the best place possible. We get to know them when the start of the Dakar Rallye is a year away. We observe their peak performances and sudden slumps, as well as their strong sisterly bonds with the first cracks appearing. The turning point comes when only Aliyyah sets out on the Dakar Rallye. Yasmeen is unable to start due to an accident and a health problems. Ironically their joint dream divides the sisters and both of them have to deal with a lot of pressure. Aliyyah faces immense strain on the most dangerous race in the world and Yasmeen has to come to terms with herself and her distress. In the end though the experience toughens them up and both realise that their relationship is more important than racing. Each one now has a different task at hand but they both know they have each other.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Factual Series of the Year

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

WHO WILL SAVE ALEX?

Alex commits vandalism and climbs tall cranes in desperation. She fears that one day she may harm herself or others. Alex is among society's most vulnerable, but who will save her? She does not conform to the system's categories and lives a life on the streets, involving drugs, crime, and frequent visits to the hospital and psychiatric ward.

This documentary provides a unique insight into life on the streets with dual diagnoses. Alex has given us access to her mobile phone, where she has recorded situations herself while in psychosis or under the influence of medication, putting herself or others in dangerous situations. These recordings provide a powerful visual proof of the heartbreaking circumstances she is living in.

Alex's foster parents offer additional perspectives on what it has been like as her closest family to witness her spiraling further into trouble, with no adequate help available. For, who will save Alex if she poses a danger to those trying to rescue her?

In this documentary, we follow Alex's life on the streets and try to understand why it is so difficult to help vulnerable individuals like her. And if you don't want help, do you have the right to ruin your life? The documentary takes place in Aarhus and the suburbs of the second largest city of Denmark.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

05

HVEM SKAL REDDE ALEX? DENMARK

Submitting organisation
TV2 Østjylland

Contact
Thomas Skov
thsk@tv2oj.dk

Author David Essenbæk Jakobsen
Director Marie Mønster
Camera Pernille Olsson, Oskar Fisker,
Andreas Petersen
Commissioning editor Thomas Skov
Producer Anne Troensegaard Bentsen
Production company TV2 Østjylland

Length 32 min

Original language Danish
Published by TV 2
Date of publication 3 October 2023 at 06:00

06

REVONTULTEN
RÄPPÄRI
FINLAND

RAP AND REINDEER

Submitting organisation
DocArt

Contact
Tiina Saario
tiina.saario@wildfin.com

Author / Producer Petteri Saario
Camera Antti Saario, Petteri Saario
Commissioning editor Jenny Westergård
Producer Petteri Saario, Tiina Saario
Production company DocArt
Co-producers
Yle, Finnish Film Foundation,
AVEK Audiovisual Centre,
Church Media Foundation

Length 73 min

Original language North Sami, Finnish
Published by Yle Teema
Date of publication 5 October 2023 at 21:00

The documentary follows the life of 18-year-old Sámi rapper Mihkku Laiti, who lives in the northernmost corner of Sámiland in Finland. The film is a coming-of-age story, following Mihkku on his journey towards a career as a musician and rise to stardom in the midst of varying expectations. He has charmed the crowd at Finland's Got Talent competition and proudly wears the traditional Sámi costume he has styled himself. He raps and yoiks in harmony, designs his own brand on his computer but also masters the skill of laborious reindeer herding. Above all, he sees his own unique roots and the Sámi language as his greatest strength. The future makes him wonder: to follow his father's footsteps or to reach for his dreams? Mihkku's story is strongly tied to the future of Sámi culture: it can prevail only if it can renew itself and continue to meet the needs of its people. The same applies to the language sustaining the culture. This film offers a new, fresh look at Sámi culture as experienced and told by a young Sámi himself. Young Sámi are not interested in the former forms of traditional customs and means of livelihood. Instead, they want to renew them, make their own version of them. In the process they also renew Sámi culture.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

AGAINST THE TIDE

Mumbai fishermen Rakesh and Ganesh are inheritors of the great Koli knowledge system – a way to harvest the sea by following the moon and the tides. Rakesh has kept faith in the traditional fishing methods while Ganesh has strayed away from them, embracing technology. This documentary tells a tale of friendship and rising resentment between the two men, as close as brothers, against the backdrop of an adoring sea, which is increasingly turning hostile because of climate change.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

07

AGAINST THE TIDE

FRANCE

Submitting organisation

France Télévisions

Contact

Dounia Taha

dounia.taha@francetv.fr

Author Sarvnik Kaur

Director Sarvnik Kaur

Camera Ashok Meena

Commissioning editor David Amiel

Producer Quentin Laurent

Production company Les Films de l'Œil Sauvage

Co-producers Snooker Club Films,

A Little Anarchy Films, with the participation

of France Télévisions and Ushuaïa TV

Length 93 min

Original language Koli

Published by France 2

Date of publication 28 May 2024 at 00:05

08

LE COMPROMIS

FRANCE

EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

Submitting organisation
ARTE GEIE

Contact
Gabriele Purr
assist-thema@arte.tv

Authors Fanny Tondre, Yann Olivier
Director Fanny Tondre
Camera Fanny Tondre
Commissioning editor Claudia Bucher
Producer Yann Ollivier
Production company Factstory
Co-producers Zadig Productions

Length 95 min

Original language French
Published by ARTE GEIE
Date of publication 30 April 2024 at 21:47

Three women, at different stages of their political life. Three women, at different stages of their personal lives. And one fight – the "corporate due diligence" law – in the European Parliament.

Lara Wolters from the Netherlands is a trilingual Dutch Labour Party member who grew up in Brussels and entered politics to give a voice to the voiceless.

Manon Aubry from France is a former Oxfam activist and wanted to enter politics to change things instead of just denouncing them. At 33, she leads the European Left political group in Parliament.

Both are in their first term in the European Parliament.

Heidi Hautala from Finland, founder of the environmental movement in Finland 30 years ago, knows this institution like the back of her hand. She has attended it since 1995, with an interlude as minister of development in Finland, and is on her fifth and last term.

All three have chosen to fight for an unprecedented upheaval of the rules of the game of globalisation. From now on, it will be companies (not the approx. 450 millions European consumers) who will be held responsible for terrible employment conditions or the destruction of a forest on the other side of the planet. To do this, they must tackle the pyramid of responsibilities between subcontractors and make the mother companies liable to prosecution.

This is the purpose of the "corporate due diligence" law that they will defend and negotiate during the year 2023. It is this path strewn with pitfalls that this film aims to tell, immersing us in Lara, Manon and Heidi's daily lives, at work and at home.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

ETERNAL YOU

This documentary accompanies people from around the globe who use artificial intelligence (AI) to "connect with the dead". Joshua chats day and night with the digital clone of his deceased first love and lets her take part in his everyday life. Christi just wants confirmation that her late best friend is doing well in heaven, but has a harrowing experience with his AI likeness. Jang Ji-Sung meets the VR clone of her deceased 7-year-old daughter. The inventors of the services deny any responsibility for the profound psychological consequences of those experiences. Numerous competitors hope for a lucrative market, as religious and collective forms of mourning are losing relevance. Is this the beginning of the end of finitude?

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

09

ETERNAL YOU GERMANY

Submitting organisation
Gebrüder Beetz Filmproduktion Berlin
GmbH & Co. KG

Contact
Olga Frank
o.frank@beetz-brothers.com

Authors / Directors
Hans Block, Moritz Riesewieck
Camera Tom Bergmann, Konrad Waldmann
Commissioning editors Christiane Hinz,
Jutta Krug (WDR/arte), Dirk Neuhoﬀ,
Barbara Biemann (NRD), Matthias Leybrand,
Carlos Gerstenhauer (BR), Mirjam Dolderer
(SWR), Rolf Bergmann (rbb), Urs Augsburg
(SRF), Sven Wälti (SRG SSR), Barbara Truyen
(VPRO)

Producers Christian Beetz,
Georg Tschurtschenthaler
Production company beetz brothers film
production
Co-producers WDR, NDR, BR, SWR, rbb,
SRF / SRG SSR, VPRO, Docmine

Length 87 min

Original language English, Korean
Published by ARD
Date of publication 20 January 2024 at 19:00

10

DIE VIVA-STORY:
AUFSTIEG
GERMANY

THE VIVA STORY: ASCENSION

Submitting organisation
ARD Kultur

Contact
Richard Neuber
richard.neuber@ardkultur.de

Author / Director
Thorsten Berrar (Florida Factual)
Camera Fabian Uhlemann, Jens Lindemann,
Timo Semmler, Uwe Kielhorn
Commissioning editors Luzia Niedermeier,
Simon Schäfer (Florida Factual)
Producers Bianca Heins (Florida Factual),
Annemarie Haak (ARD Kultur)
Production company Florida Factual GmbH
commissioned by ARD Kultur

Title of series
Die VIVA-Story – zu geil für diese Welt!
Episode 1 of 3
Length 37 min

Original language German
Published by ARD Kultur
Date of publication 1 December 2023 at 20:15

The German music channel VIVA would have celebrated its 30th birthday on December 1, 2023. But in 2018 it was over for the music station, which since 1993 had shaped the lifestyle of an entire generation like no other and became a springboard for numerous stars. This episode describes the anarchic starting phase and the unexpected initial success of VIVA, which catapulted the first German music and youth channel from 0 to 100 in public perception. From the anarchist beginnings to the swansong – the VIVA story is the first comprehensive documentary that illuminates the station's immense influence on the German music industry, pop culture and the zeitgeist. Our journey through time to the 90s and 00s also offers a reunion with numerous people who continue to shape the music and TV industry today. Stars like Heike Makatsch, Stefan Raab and Klaas Heufer-Umlauf and many more started their careers in Cologne. With diverse faces and colourful broadcast formats, the station had a lasting impact on the German music and media landscape and thus fit perfectly into the fun society of the 1990s: euphoria, excess and anything goes. ARD Kultur tells the key moments in the station's history in three parts – rise, triumph and fall.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Factual Series of the Year

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

STILL IN MY NAME

Emanuela Loi is among the first women in Italy to join the police force. She leaves the island of Sardinia and finds herself in the early 1990s on another island, Sicily, at that time the scene of Mafia massacres. She is the only woman to be part of the escort service to judges, particularly Paolo Borsellino, on the front lines in Palermo in the fight against organised crime. On July 19, 1992, Emanuela lost her life at the age of 24 along with the judge and four other officers in the Mafia bombing of Via D'Amelio. Currently, the victims' families are still waiting for justice. Tellers of the story are: Claudia, Emanuela's sister, who in Sardinia revives an old blouse of Emanuela's by mending it by machine and, at the end of the film, wearing it as she often does with her sister's belongings; Emanuele Filiberto, Emanuela's friend and colleague, the Magistrate's head escort, who after the bombing continued to work in the escorts protecting Judge Borsellino's daughter. The entire film unfolds along a journey made from Sardinia to Palermo aboard an old Fiat Panda that belonged to Emanuela Loi. The driver is a girl who bears a striking resemblance to the main character of the story. She looks like an actress until she puts on her uniform and, at the end, she reveals herself: her name is Emanuela Loi and she was born four months after the bombing. She joined the police force to carry on her aunt's mission, making memories in schools and continuing to demand justice.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Factual Series of the Year

11

I RAGAZZI DELLE SCORTE. IO DEVO CONTINUARE. ITALY

Submitting organisation
Radiotelevisione Italiana – Rai

Contact
Mariangela Borneo
mariangela.borneo@rai.it

Authors Diana Ligorio, Alessia Arcolaci with
Luigi Montebello
Director Diana Ligorio
Camera Luigi Montebello
Commissioning editor Rai Documentari
Producers Mauro Parissone, Laura Guglielmetti
Production company 42° Parallelo
Co-producers Rai, Ministero dell'Interno –
Dipartimento Pubblica Sicurezza; Presidenza
Consiglio dei Ministri – Struttura di missione
anniversari nazionali ed eventi sportivi nazionali
e internazionali

Title of series The officers who faced the mafia
Episode 1 of 8

Length 53 min

Original language Italian
Published by Rai 3
Date of publication 23 May 2024 at 23:10

12

BRANDMEESTER

THE NETHERLANDS

BURNING OUT

Submitting organisation
Human

Contact
Samet Yilmaz
samet.yilmaz@human.nl

Author / Director Saskia Gubbels

Camera Niels van Koevorden,

Hans Bouma, Gregor Meerman

Commissioning editor Manon van der Sluijs

Producers Willem Baptist, Nienke Korthof

Production company Tangerine Tree

Length 85 min

Original language Dutch

Published by NPO / NPO 2

Date of publication 21 November 2023 at 22:45

The Amsterdam-Amstelland fire brigade needs to change.

At Amsterdam's oldest fire station, not far from the Rijksmuseum, we follow station commander Gerrie on the eve of a move and during the long-running process to make the organisation more inclusive and diverse.

With Gerrie in the leading role, we see the fire-fighters carrying out their daily activities at the fire station. We join them when they go out to fight a blaze, when someone needs to be resuscitated, or when difficult conversations take place with commanders and policy makers. And we witness during group discussions where emotions sometimes run high. Gerrie represents the old guard, and he watches with dismay as his familiar working environment disappears. He is also struggling with understaffing, partly as a result of the new recruitment policy. Without taking sides, director Saskia Gubbels reveals why the changes imposed from above meet with so much resistance. Burning Out provides insight into the dynamics arising on the fault line of cultural change.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

DANNY ON THE SPOT: WESTBANK

Danny Ghosen is on site in the West Bank. With all eyes on Gaza, he wonders how the residents there are faring now that tensions are increasing. Ghosen visits the old West Bank trading city of Hebron, which is now in the hands of the Israeli army. The heart of the city in a holy place for Muslims, Christians and Jews. About 700 settlers now live here. Hebron is the only place where settlers made the city a settlement. Most Palestinians have had to close their shops and leave. The families who stayed live under harsh conditions. "They are not allowed to drive cars and it is forbidden for them to enter some streets", says Ghosen.

The illegal settlement is a fortress which you can only enter through a number of gates. These are heavily secured by soldiers and settlers. "The Palestinians are allowed to pass through it twice a day", says a resident of the city. "There are 580 houses in this closed prison. The police and army have complete control over this area and the residents live in fear." Ghosen finds a gate he can pass through and explains that all Palestinians on that side of the gate have a curfew. This means that they are only allowed to leave their home for a few hours a week. Ghosen also talks to a former soldier in the West Bank, who looks back with regret on his mission there. Finally, he speaks to relatives of the October 7 attacks by Hamas, who, despite their enormous sadness, plead for peace.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Factual Series of the Year

13

DANNY TER PLEKKE: WESTELIJKE JORDAANOEVER THE NETHERLANDS

Submitting organisation
NTR

Contact
barbara van der Klis
barbara.van.der.klis@ntr.nl

Author Danny Ghosen
Director Nicolette Bloemberg
Camera Roel van Hees
Commissioning editor Barbara van der Klis
Producer Laurens Langermans
Production company NTR
Co-producers Farouk el Ghazi, Yolanda Vosters, Hanny Tempert, Sarah Abu Alrob

Title of series Danny on the spot
Episode 2 of 3

Length 47 min

Original language Arabic, English, Dutch
Published by NPO, NPO2
Date of publication 18 December 2023 at 23:00

14

DE BUTLERS

THE NETHERLANDS

THE BUTLERS

Submitting organisation
BIND

Contact
Rosalien Hollestelle
rosalien@bindfilm.nl

Author / Director Marlies Smeenge

Camera Jeroen Kiers, Gijs Wilbers

Commissioning editors

Thomas Vroege, Barbara Truyen

Producers Esther van Driesum,

Joram Willink, Piet-Harm Sterk

Production company BIND

Co-producers VPRO

Title of series

Episode 1 of 4

Length 27 min

Original language English, Portuguese,

Swahili, Georgian, Dutch

Published by VPRO – NPO 3

Date of publication 25 December 2024 at 21:25

At The International Butler Academy in Simpelveld, South Limburg, students from around the world and of all ages are taught the fine art of butling in just ten weeks. We follow six students during their training and learn about their backgrounds and motivations for choosing one of the least self-serving professions.

Three times a year, a ten-week course begins at The International Butler Academy, preparing students for the profession. They live on campus at the academy, which is in a former monastery. Consistently in full costume, about fifteen men and women of all ages and nationalities are trained by a team of highly experienced (former) butlers and guest lecturers. The academy is led by director Robert Wennekes, a former butler and the master of the house. Wennekes and his team teach the students – often strictly and sometimes militaristically – based on their practical experience. Subjects include etiquette, cooking, clothing, packing suitcases, and cleaning. The lessons are filled with examples and anecdotes, offering a glimpse into the lives of the world's wealthiest. After training, butlers can work for royal families and the super-rich globally.

Despite the butler facade suggesting otherwise, the students are all very different personalities with their own lives, desires, and emotions.

Who are these people who, in this highly individualized era, choose this service-oriented profession? And what motivates them to do so?

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Factual Series of the Year

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

A NEW KIND OF WILDERNESS

On a small farm in a Norwegian forest, the Paynes live a purposefully isolated life, aiming to be wild and free. Maria and Nik, along with their four children Ulv, Falk, Freja, and Ronja are self-sufficient. They practice home-schooling and strive for a closely-knit family dynamic in harmony with nature. However, when tragedy strikes the family, it upends their idyllic world and forces them to forge a new path into modern society. Filmmaker Silje Evensmo Jacobsen captures an intimate and soulful portrait of love, life, and growing up. The Paynes' journey, their triumphs and struggles, invite reflection on our own life choices, our responsibility to the planet and our children, and how we navigate life after loss.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

15

UKJENT LANDSKAP NORWAY

Submitting organisation
A5 Film

Contact
Mari Bakke Riise
mari@a5film.no

Author N7A
Director Silje Evensmo Jacobsen
Camera Silje Evensmo Jacobsen et. al.
Commissioning editors
Anne Kvadsheim (NRK), Anders Bruus (DR),
Asta Dalman, Charlotte Madsen (SVT)
Producer Mari Bakke Riise
Production company A5 Film
Co-producers NRK, SVT, DR

Length 84 min

Original language Norwegian, English
Published by NRK
Date of publication 19 August 2024 at 06:00

16

TREI ZILE
DESPRE NATALIA
ROMANIA

THREE DAYS ON NATALIA

Submitting organisation
Televiziunea Română – TVR

Contact
Cristina Sasu
delia.apostol@tvr.ro

Author Cătălin Apostol
Director / Producer Răzvan Butaru
Camera Iulian Ene
Commissioning editor Delia Apostol
Production company TVR

Length 77 min

Original language Romanian
Published by TVR1, Dosar România
Date of publication 9 May 2024 at 22:00

To get to them, at the edge of the world, you need to go through a thick mane of dark and cold forests, climbing a road that seems endless, among the increasingly wild corners. Up there, on the ridge, is the place where the oldest Hutsuls in Bucovina live.

Natalia and Gheorghe Marocico are celebrating 50 years of marriage this year. But they will celebrate alone in their homestead at the edge of the world. They have never been gone on a vacation. They have not seen the sea. If they need to take a break from the daily chores, they simply take a walk along the dusty road boarded by trees or just sit down in the shadow of an oak on the hill, contemplating the fairy-tale landscape of Bucovina. They have four children all gone out in the world and they carry on their shoulders the harsh worries of mountain life, with cattle and horses to tend, with cats and dogs and plenty of poultry. They love life, cherish tradition and entrust their lives to the hands of God, praying and keeping a deep faith that things are as they should be.

We filmed them almost nonstop for a few days in a row. They forgot about the camera and continued their household chores as if we were not there. We could thus witness a slice of their simple life and wonderful life – of a vanishing lifestyle.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

AGONY

This documentary tells the story of an unprecedented crime at an elite elementary school in Serbia.

In 2023 in Belgrade, a 13-year-old pupil, one of the youngest mass murderers in history, killed nine pupils and the school's security guard. Since he was only 13 years old, he will not be brought to justice for his crime.

In the film, the parents of the children who were killed talk about the day before the massacre and about the last hug that they gave their children before seeing them off to school. Their agony started several hours later, when they learnt about the shooting and that their children were killed behind their school desks – where they were supposed to be the safest.

The agony and pain of these parents, but also of the entire society, is not subsiding. There is a lot of questioning. How could this have happened in Serbia? Who bears the main responsibility and what parts of the system failed? Despite everything, the parents of the children who were killed do not feel hate, only immense sadness, but also a desire to make the dreams of their children come true.

Since the culprit was not yet 14 years old at the time of the massacre, he will not be held accountable for the crime. A year later, parents still don't have answers to most questions.

The documentary talks about the murdered, their dreams, the last day, responsibility, society's reaction to the crime and the memorial centre. Has anything changed since that May 3 – or are we still in that day?

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

17

BOL

SERBIA

Submitting organisation
Radio Television of Serbia – RTS

Contact
Sonja Adamovic
sonja.adamovic@rts.rs

Authors Gordana Jakovljevic, Veljko Medic
Director Sasa Gabric
Camera Nikola Djurovic
Commissioning editor Ivana Bojkovic
Producer Dragica Barovic
Production company RTS

Length 69 min

Original language Serbian
Published by RTS
Date of publication 3 May 2024 at 20:26

18

**PRVIČ: ŠOK
SLOVENIA**

PRVIČ: SHOCK

Submitting organisation
Radio Televizija Slovenija – RTVSLO

Contact
Neža Prah Seničar
neza.prah@rtvslo.si

Authors Neža Prah Seničar, Urška Henigman
Director Špela Kuclar
Camera Žiga Trnkoczy, Jaka Kodarin
Commissioning editor Martina Peštaj
Producer Alenka Orel
Production company RTV Slovenija

Title of series The First Time / Prvič
Episode 1 of 10

Length 28 min

Original language Slovenian
Published by TV Slovenija, 2. channel
Date of publication 12 February 2024 at 27:22

Shock focusses on the process in our body that surprises us during puberty. The show is a parallel blend of two parts, the discussions among youngsters and react video to these discussions. Host Neža Prah Seničar and a famous Slovenian person (there is another guest in each episode) participate in each episode of the react part.

The first episode follows an open discussion among youngsters that have met on the set for the first time. Special attention has been paid to finding youngsters with different sets of values, experiences and genders that are relaxed and ready to openly discuss topics considered taboo.

Youngsters – 16 to 26 years old – spin the bottle and pick up a question from the deck of cards questions that spark discussion among them.

The topics they openly discuss in this episode are first wet dreams, first menstruation, pimples, body hair, changes in genitals. All this happens under the influence of hormones during puberty as we grow up. We can see that the youngsters are enjoying the conversation.

The role of the host and – here – Slovenian actor Domen Valič is to include the important information, facts about the puberty, debunk the myths and to normalize conversation about body changes during puberty. The famous guest is not shy to share uncomfortable memories about growing up.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Factual Series of the Year

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

FAUNA

Deep within the forests in the suburbs of Barcelona, a shepherd follows his daily routine peacefully: eating along the river, and taking care of his herd of animals. As the camera slowly zooms out we discover a laboratory built next to the forest. A high security place, with a nearly sci-fi look. Busier than usual, they are working on the development of a vaccine against Covid and using animals such as goats, sheeps or pigs for the testing.

By combining clips of the animals owned by the lab and the lives of the ones outside of it, we see how two completely different worlds coexist in the same place. As the lab seems to be thriving, the shepherd is starting to see how the reality he has always known seems to be thinning, society is changing and new generations don't lean towards it, technology is taking up its space as it is evolving. Adding this context to the fact that he suffers from a degenerative illness, an early retirement starts to seem the shepherd's destiny.

As the investigations in the lab go on, the presence of an unidentified bug inside the building reminds us of how nature and technology will always be coexisting realities. A message that is poignantly delivered by the shepherd's final decision, accepting his faith and retiring while giving his herds to the lab, that will now be part of scientific research.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

19

FAUNA

SPAIN

Submitting organisation
Nanouk Films

Contact
Sergi Cameron
Annia.Balcells@nanouk.tv

Author / Director Pau Faus
Camera Carlota Serarols
Commissioning editor Júlia R. Aymar
Producer Sergi Cameron
Production company Nanouk Films

Length 75 min

Original language Catalan, Spanish
Published by Televisió de Catalunya
Date of publication 22 April 2024 at 00:00

20

ТАКИМ МЕНЕ
ЗРОБИЛА ВІЙНА
UKRAINE

THE WAR HAS CHANGED
ME THIS WAY

Submitting organisation
Suspilne Ukraine – UA:PBC

Contact
Anna Orlenko
a.orlenko@suspilne.media

Author / Director Olena Kryvenko
Camera Yunus Seitablaiev
Commissioning editor Nadiia Stadnytska
Producer Anastasiia Hudyma
Production company UA: PBC

Length 45 min

Original language Ukrainian
Published by
Pershyi TV channel (Suspilne Ukraine)
Date of publication 22 October 2023 at 22:00

After soldiers leave the war, the war does not leave them. Arsen Mednyk, 33, is originally from Bucha, Kyiv region. He grew up in a large family. Until February 24, 2022, he worked at several jobs – as an instructor at a shooting range, at a car service station in Bucha and as a shoe repairman in a Kyiv shoe workshop. He dreamed of studying and starting his own business. In February 2022, the Russian army occupied Bucha, and Arsen signed up for the territorial defence, defending the city. There is a stereotype that Roma do not fight and are only thieves – Arsen, a Roma by birth, proved it wrong. Arsen's airborne assault unit was liberating Kherson, and he was seriously injured in that battle. A month in a coma, amputation of his fingers, escape from the hospital, and struggle with addictions followed. The veteran's path starts with psychological and physical rehabilitation, obtaining a disability group, finding a job, because he lost his old one due to disability, and then getting used to a life that needs to start over. "The war has caused a lot of consequences, and I have my own war now – inside me. I fight with myself every night now: I fight to be able to sleep, I fight to be able to relax, I fight to calm down mentally. It hurts because it is the war there and we are fighting together, and when you are alone, you are fighting alone. And loneliness is hard to overcome in such a situation."

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

THE BRADFORD AUNTIES

Tahera, Rubina and Ghazala are charming, opinionated and determined ladies from Yorkshire, with one major thing in common: They are all Asian Aunties – women who use their lifetimes of experience to impart wisdom, pass judgement and glue their communities together. This documentary follows the trio of Bradford women as they embark on their latest mission – to ensure their language, food, music and values are handed on to the next generation.

Aunties Tahera, Rubina and Ghazala believe passionately in the preservation of their culture for their communities' young people. However, in the wake of today's digital world, they fear this is in danger of being eroded as the next generation of Asian youth adopt more western ways.

Rolling up their sleeves, the Aunties are embarking on the biggest challenge of their lives – a unique and bespoke community project looking to bring the young and old of Bradford together. And to cap it all, they're planning to take everyone on a big coach trip to the UK's seaside town Blackpool at the end of the project.

The Aunties' plan is to run a series of workshops to teach young people a host of skills and provide a chance for the generations to get to know each other better. From music and poetry to sewing, cooking and the importance of family, the Aunties will look to connect the youth with the old ways and ideals. But along the way, will they discover they have just as much to learn from the young cohort?

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

21

THE BRADFORD AUNTIES

UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation
ClockWork Films

Contact
Heenan Bhatti
heenanbhatti@clockworkfilms.co.uk

Author / Director Heenan Bhatti
Camera Paul Wells, Heenan Bhatti
Commissioning editor Daisy Scalchi
Producers
Nina Davies, Heenan Bhatti, Farah Qayum
Production company ClockWork Films

Length 50 min

Original language English
Published by BBC
Date of publication 4 October 2024 at 22:35

22

WHITES ONLY:
ADE'S EXTREMIST
ADVENTURE
UNITED KINGDOM

Submitting organisation
Cardiff Productions

Contact
Frankie Nolan
frankie@cardiffproductions.co.uk

Author Ade Adepitan
Director Dominic Ozanne
Camera Brian Green
Commissioning editor Daniel Fromm
Producer Narinder Minhas
Production company
Cardiff Productions, Motion Content Group

Length 50 min

Original language English
Published by Channel 4
Date of publication 18 March 2024 at 22:00

WHITES ONLY:
ADE'S EXTREMIST ADVENTURE

In this film, Nigerian-born journalist and presenter Ade Adepitan travels into rural South Africa to the "whites only" town of Orania. Created in the 1990s as a "safe haven" for Afrikaners, descendants of white Dutch colonial-era settlers, Orania is a fast-growing town with big plans for the future. But it's a highly controversial place, with monuments to old apartheid leaders – including Hendrik Verwoerd, the "architect of apartheid" – visible across the town.

Ade becomes the first black man to ever spend a week in Orania. As he gets to know the residents, he embarks on a journey to explore their beliefs, and tries to understand why they are so eager to create a society where multiculturalism seems to have no place.

Many who live in Orania believe their way of life not to be racist, but rather a cultural project, created to protect the traditions of the Afrikaner people. But with ambitions to turn their small town into an independent state, and undeniable parallels to apartheid – what will Ade make of Orania's mission? And what will he find waiting for him?

At a time when separatism is rife around the world – whether it's Black separatists in the USA, or Hindu separatists in India – we explore why multiculturalism has come under so much fire.

Ade's journey to Orania is pegged to the 30th anniversary of the end of apartheid.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Documentary of the Year

PRIX EUROPA 2024

Video Investigation Category

Award

★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Video Investigation of the Year

Jury Group Coordinator

Ali Fegan
Sveriges Television – SVT, Sweden

01	Sepsis, the Silent Killer	Belgium
02	The Right to Choose	Czech Republic
03	The Russian Export Scam	Finland
04	Donald Trump – A Strategy of Chaos	France
05	Juvenile Killers	France
06	Ukraine, the Cost of Arms	France
07	Putin's Bears – The Most Dangerous Hackers in the World	Germany
08	The Straw Man Cartel – A Service for the Mafia	Germany
09	Undercover With a Human Smuggler Gang	Germany
10	Milking It – Dairy's Dirty Secret	Ireland
11	Omerta Above the Clouds	The Netherlands
12	We're Having a Baby	Sweden
13	Federer's Eco-Sneakers – Reality or Green Marketing?	Switzerland
14	Our Daily Meat	Switzerland
15	Perfume's Dark Secret	United Kingdom

VIDEO INVESTIGATION

Timetable

TUESDAY 8 October

14:00		Jury Group Briefing		
14:30	04	Donald Trump – A Strategy of Chaos	France	63 min
15:35		Break		
16:00	02	The Right to Choose	Czech Republic	51 min
16:55	01	Sepsis, the Silent Killer	Belgium	37 min
17:40		Start of Discussion		

WEDNESDAY 9 October

9:30	11	Omerta Above the Clouds	The Netherlands	48 min
10:25	07	Putin's Bears – The Most Dangerous Hackers in the World	Germany	65 min
11:30		Break		
12:00	14	Our Daily Meat	Switzerland	52 min
12:55		Lunch		
14:00	05	Juvenile Killers	France	53 min
14:55	09	Undercover With a Human Smuggler Gang	Germany	44 min
15:40		Break		
16:00	15	Perfume's Dark Secret	United Kingdom	42 min
16:50		Start of Discussion		

THURSDAY 10 October

9:30	08	The Straw Man Cartel – A Service for the Mafia	Germany	44 min
10:20	03	The Russian Export Scam	Finland	29 min
10:50		Break		
11:20	13	Federer's Eco-Sneakers – Reality or Green Marketing?	Switzerland	50 min
12:15	10	Milking It – Dairy's Dirty Secret	Ireland	49 min
13:05		Lunch		
14:00	06	Ukraine, the Cost of Arms	France	54 min
15:00	12	We're Having a Baby	Sweden	59 min
16:00		Break		
16:25		Start of Discussion		

01

KWAAD BLOED BELGIUM

SEPSIS, THE SILENT KILLER

Submitting organisation
Vlaamse Radio- en Televisieomroep – VRT

Contact
Franky Audenaerde
franky.audenaerde@vrt.be

Authors Peter Brems, Mieke Fauconnier
Director Fabian De Wilde
Camera Fabian De Wilde, Stijn De Moor
Commissioning editor Lin Deltour
Producer Els Cannaerts
Production company VRT

Title of series Pano

Length 37 min

Original language Dutch
Published by VRT 1

Date of publication 22 November 2023 at 21:30

Sepsis is a life-threatening condition, triggered by the body's extreme response to infection. Despite its alarming impact, it is largely unknown to the general public. This investigation dives deep into the harrowing reality of sepsis, exploring its devastating effects and the urgent need for a coordinated national response.

The film follows Ilse, whose sepsis diagnosis came too late, resulting in the amputation of her legs. Nancy tragically lost her 17-year-old son Arno due to unrecognized sepsis symptoms. Audrey, another victim, shares her struggle with the illness that almost took her life.

The documentary also features expert insights. Dr. Erika Vlieghe, an infectious disease specialist, calls sepsis a "silent killer" that spirals out of control, emphasizing the necessity for heightened awareness among both the public and healthcare professionals.

Dr. Jan De Waele critiques the current approach, advocating for a more robust and cohesive strategy to combat this stealthy threat.

In the wake of the broadcast, the impact was immediate and profound. Belgian Health Minister Frank Vandenbroucke announced plans for a comprehensive sepsis action plan, recognizing the need for improved recognition, education, and treatment protocols. This move was catalyzed by the urgency and resonance of the issues presented in the Pano report, illustrating the documentary's significant influence on public policy and healthcare reform.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

VIDEO INVESTIGATION

THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE

In the last three years, the number of Polish women who travel to the Czech Republic to have a legal abortion has increased. The Polish government's 2021 decision to ban almost all abortions presented many local women with a fatal dilemma.

Help for them was born spontaneously on the sidelines of the largest public protests in Poland's modern history. On the initiative of Katarzyna Byrtek and Marta Machalowska in the Czech Republic, the organisation Ciocia Czesia was founded, which today counts 15 volunteers who help Polish women to have their pregnancies officially terminated in Czech hospitals. Thanks to the money collected, they can even pay for the procedure for women in financial distress and transfer them directly to the clinics. In more than three years, they have already helped thousands of Polish women. At a time when the developed world is addressing the equal status of women and the Polish government even wanted to introduce a register of pregnant women, the situation surrounding Ciocia Czesia is a paradox of the current Central European space. Unfortunately, their mission is far from over.

The film tells the story of a few brave women who refused to accept the status quo, refused to submit to the dictates of religious-political dogmatism, and found a way to actively defend the rights of women whose freedom of choice has been taken away by the current discriminatory abortion law.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

02

PRÁVO VOLBY

CZECH REPUBLIC

Submitting organisation

Česká televize – ČT

Contact

Zuzana Černá

zuzana.cerna2@ceskatelevize.cz

Author / Director Robin Lipo

Camera Filip Drozd

Commissioning editor Martin Novosad

Producer Kateřina Ondřejková (Creative),

Jarmila Hoznauerová (Executive)

Production company Czech Television

Length 51 min

Original language Czech, Polish

Published by Czech TV, Channel: ČT2

Date of publication 20 February 2024 at 20:55

03

EXPORTFUSKET
TILL RYSSLAND
FINLAND

THE RUSSIAN EXPORT SCAM

Submitting organisation
Yle, the Finnish Broadcasting Company

Contact
Linda Söderlund
linda.soderlund@yle.fi

Authors / Directors
Linda Söderlund, Axel Rappe
Camera Dan Gustafsson
Commissioning editor Charlotte Sundström
Producer Malin Ekholm
Production company Svenska Yle

Title of series Yle Spotlight

Length 29 min

Original language Swedish
Published by Yle Fem
Date of publication 2 October 2023 at 19:55

Yle Spotlight investigates how luxury cars are illegally shipped through Finland to Russia.

Reporters Axel Rappe and Linda Söderlund receive a tip that new cars are being loaded onto cargo ships in Germany, shipped to Finland, and then smuggled onwards to Russia. EU sanctions prohibit the export of luxury cars to Russia.

The reporters want to find out if Finland is a transit country for the car smugglers. They manage to attach trackers to two cars. Through an app on their phones, they can follow as the cars cross the Russian border and are transported 5000 kilometers to Tomsk in Siberia.

One of the cars drives around in Tomsk and appears to have gotten a new owner. Yle's Contact in Tomsk finds the other car at a fancy car dealership.

Using various open source methods, the reporters are able to determine that the car export originated in Canada. Many of the companies involved in the illegal car export have connections to Russia. The car salesman in Tomsk tells Yle that circumventing the EU sanctions is not difficult at all, it just requires a bit more work.

The Finnish authorities are aware that companies are circumventing EU sanctions, but they do not always have the ability to stop the smugglers. And it turns out: Finland is an important stage on the route in the illegal international car trade.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

VIDEO INVESTIGATION

DONALD TRUMP – A STRATEGY OF CHAOS

The year 2024 may see former President Trump return to power. A return that seemed impossible for many Americans, mainly because of the attack on the Capitol by his supporters on January 6th 2021. This film shows, that the attack was everything but a spontaneous demonstration that got out of hand. On the contrary, it was the result of a political strategy, and the US justice system is accusing Donald Trump of being responsible for it. For the first time in the history of the United States, a former president was accused of conspiracy to defraud his own country. January 6th was a trauma for American democracy, probably underestimated in Europe. In this investigation we find out what exactly happened where, at what time and with what intention. Investigators, direct witnesses, accomplices, victims exceptionally agreed to answer our questions and the extent of Trump's perfidious plans and manipulations becomes obvious. Most of the people we spoke to told us that the real test for American democracy will be the presidential election of 2024. To understand this, you need to discover the extent to which it was threatened during the last election.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

04

DONALD TRUMP, LA STRATÉGIE DU CHAOS FRANCE

Submitting organisation
France Télévisions

Contact
Dounia Taha
dounia.taha@francetv.fr

Author / Director Louis Milano-Dupont
Camera Giona Messina
Commissioning editor Hugo Plagnard
Producer Clément Castex
Production company France Télévisions

Title of series Complément d'enquête

Length 63 min

Original language French, English
Published by France 2
Date of publication 12 September 2024 at 22:55

05

MARSEILLE:
ENCORE MINEURS,
DÉJÀ TUEURS
FRANCE

JUVENILE KILLERS

Submitting organisation
StudioFact Media Group

Contact
Daniel Meneses
d.meneses@studiofact.fr

Author / Director Julie Pichot
Camera Christophe Astruc
Commissioning editor Delphine Lopez
Producer Jacques Aragones
Production company
Studiofact Media Group – TV PRESSE

Title of series Complément d'enquête

Length 53 min

Original language French
Published by France 2
Date of publication 21 March 2024 at 23:02

In 2023, Marseille suffered 49 "narcomicides", a contraction of narcobanditism and homicide, a term tailor-made for the city. Between settling scores and indiscriminate shootings, little is generally known about these murders at the foot of the towers. After the fact, the press draws up a profile of the victims: often young boys involved in drug trafficking, when not collateral victims. But what do we know about the killers? Who are these silhouettes firing their weapons at a rival or neighbour? According to judicial officers, the hood often hides a kid. 60 percent of those indicted for murder and attempted murder linked to drug trafficking are aged between 14 and 21! This investigation looks at the phenomenon of Marseille's "baby killers". Last April, France discovered the videos of 18-year-old Mattéo, now suspected of five murders. The young boy, hooded and laughing, told the camera that he was doing one contract after another. The suspected murderer is said to have worked for the DZ Mafia. Over a period of several months, our journalists succeeded in filming the little hands and gunmen of the two powerful criminal gangs, who are battling it out for control of the deal points: Yoda and DZ Mafia. In Marseille, three quarters of all murders are linked to this war. Contracts worth €10,000 to €30,000, recruitment on social networks, hitmen as young as 15, "manpower" sometimes forced – Complément d'enquête tells you all about it from the inside.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

VIDEO INVESTIGATION

UKRAINE, THE COST OF ARMS

Not since the Second World War has there been such an influx of military equipment into Europe: drones, tanks, missile launchers, aircraft, semi-automatic rifles, grenades and ammunition. Almost every day, a new arms shipment is announced by the countries supporting Ukraine in the face of Russian aggression.

The United States have already spent 45 billion dollars in military aid, the European Union 17 billion euros. How do these deliveries take place, from production in Europe to receipt in Ukraine?

Behind the scenes, unscrupulous intermediaries are taking advantage of this historic situation. Far from the official channels, they too are supplying arms to the Ukrainian armed forces, selling them at high prices. They are currently enjoying the best years of their "careers". We have found some of these rejoicing war profiteers who explain how their business works.

The spectre of arms trafficking in Ukraine has also become the cornerstone of Russian propaganda, seeking to frighten off countries that support Zelensky's government. The Ukrainian authorities are well aware of this, and are doing everything in their power to control this unprecedented influx of weapons on to their territory. Where will this go? In any case, the war in Ukraine will have accelerated the trend observed over the last decade: Europe is re-arming, from Scandinavia to peaceful Germany, including France, which has decided to increase its defence budget by 30 percent over the next seven years.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

06

UKRAINE, LE COÛT DES ARMES

FRANCE

Submitting organisation
Premières lignes télévision

Contact
Edouard Blondeau
edouard.blondeau@pltv.fr

Authors Martin Boudot, Hugo Van Offel
Director Hugo Van Offel
Camera Grégory Roudier, Mathias Denizo,
Eliot Fritel, Joseph Haley, Grégoire Lenoir
Commissioning editor Martin Boudot
Producer Martin Boudot
Production company Premières Lignes

Length 54 min

Original language French
Published by France 5, France Télévision
Date of publication 25 February 2024 at 21:00

07

PUTINS BÄREN –
DIE GEFÄHRlichsten
HACKER DER WELT
GERMANY

Submitting organisation
Südwestrundfunk – SWR / ARD

Contact
Jan Teuwsen
Jan.Teuwsen@swr.de

Author / Director Jonas & David
Camera Jair Mahazri, Tilo Gummel
Commissioning editors Stefan Spiegel,
Lukas Meya (funk); Maryam Bonakdar,
Sabine Harder (SWR)
Producers Jonas & David;
Cristian Kiesling (Executice)
Production company Simplicissimus
Co-Producer commissioned SWR and funk

Length 65 min

Original language German
Published by ARD Mediathek (SWR, funk)
Date of publication 21 February 2024 at 23:35

PUTIN'S BEARS – THE MOST
DANGEROUS HACKERS IN THE
WORLD

Free elections are the cornerstones of Western democracies. But when hackers try to infiltrate and manipulate our electoral systems, a key principle of our free and democratic order is jeopardized.

This film shows just how much.

It tells the story of the biggest hacker attack on the Bundestag in 2015, when hackers from the Russian secret service – belonging to the APT28 group, also known as Fancy Bear – managed to penetrate the German Chancellor Angela Merkel's computer and steal 16 gigabytes of emails from the Bundestag's data system. 16 gigabytes, according to the authors in the commentary, no more than an old USB stick. "What are you supposed to do with that?" But you can't be reassured at any point in the film.

The authors accurately string together one detail after another – and show how emails, of all things, became the undoing of then presidential candidate Hillary Clinton. Numerous leaked documents prove that representatives of Fancy Bear also had an influence here. The result: Donald Trump became President of the USA with the help of Russian hackers.

The film relentlessly demystifies the Russian hackers.

It also makes clear that our elections and democracies are vulnerable. But cyber security can protect us from external attacks.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

VIDEO INVESTIGATION

THE STRAW MAN CARTEL – A SERVICE FOR THE MAFIA

Money laundering, insolvency fraud and tax fraud worth billions: Organised crime in Germany is increasingly and systematically using addicts and homeless people from Eastern Europe as so-called straw men. Without their knowledge, they became directors and owners of German companies on paper, of whose existence or activities they have no idea whatsoever. The criminal backers use these companies to organise extensive corporate networks for their illegal business. The straw men serve to conceal and minimise risk. The investigative journalists Adrian Bartocha and Jan Wiese have found some of these straw men. The film shows for the first time how the system of straw man recruitment works, who earns from it and for what criminal purposes the straw men are misused. With rapid changes of location and surprising twists and turns, this investigative road movie leads from a small Polish town through the whole of Germany. German notaries, dodgy translators, so-called consulting firms: They are all players in this system that is increasingly spreading in Germany. Criminal masterminds who can afford million-dollar luxury mansions in Monaco and their wives flaunt their wealth on Instagram. Their bank accounts are in Dubai, their connections with the Eastern European mafia. Exclusive insights into the fight against these structures are provided by high-ranking investigators from the Customs Criminal Investigation Office and prosecutors from the European Public Prosecutor's Office

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

08

DAS STROHMANN- KARTELL – DIENSTLEIS- TER FÜR DIE MAFIA GERMANY

Submitting organisation
Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg – rbb / ARD

Contact
Stefanie Raak
stefanie.raak@rbb-online.de

Authors / Directors
Adrian Bartocha, Jan Wiese
Camera Adrian Bartocha, Jan Wiese
Commissioning editors
Ute Beutler, Annette Nolting
Production company rbb

Title of series ARD Story

Length 44 min

Original language German
Published by Das Erste / rbb
Date of publication 30 July 2024 at 22:50

09

UNDERCOVER BEI DER SCHLEUSER-MAFIA GERMANY

Submitting organisation
Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen – ZDF

Contact
Gudrun Borenberg
borenberg.g@zdf.de

Authors / Directors
Lukas Augustin, Vanessa Schlesier
Camera Tobias Corts, Matthias Wittkuhn,
Felix Riedelsheimer, Oliver Gurr

Commissioning editors
Lucas Eiler, Nicolai Piechota
Producer Nick Golüke
Production company
Nglow Film & News Media GmbH

Title of series Die Spur

Length 44 min

Original language German
Published by ZDF

Date of publication 29 November 2023 at 22:30

UNDERCOVER WITH A HUMAN SMUGGLER GANG

Hundreds of thousands of people are seeking refuge in Europe from war and displacement. In their desperation, many turn to gangs of people smugglers who are supposed to bring them to Europe for large sums of money.

Escape is a billion-dollar business for the people smugglers. They cross border fences with false passports and on dangerous routes. With an undercover investigator, 'Die Spur' gives exclusive insights into the unscrupulous world of the human trafficking mafia.

A trip across the border to Europe costs: the people smugglers demand between five and six thousand euros from the refugees. But who are the people who make money from the misery of others?

Undercover investigator Tamer Bakiner has immersed himself in the world of human traffickers for months. He has managed to gain the trust of the smugglers and those behind them through a legend. They take him to the border and show him how they bring refugees over the fence from Serbia to Hungary at dawn and then to Germany.

The authors Lukas Augustin and Vanessa Schlesier accompany him on his journey, research who the people behind the smuggling mafia are and confront Interior Minister Nancy Faeser with the question of whether border controls and harsher punishments are long-term solutions. The film offers a unique insight into the world of the smuggling mafia and reveals how unscrupulous the gangs' business is.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

VIDEO INVESTIGATION

MILKING IT – DAIRY'S DIRTY SECRET

This investigation tells the story behind the huge success of the dairy industry in Ireland.

The controversial ending of the EU quota system meant that milk production could suddenly increase without pre-set limits. For many it looked like a bonanza. To meet what was predicted as growing consumer demand for dairy products, farmers across the EU were encouraged to expand their herd size in a big push for greater capacity. On the surface this looked very positive. Many farmers invested heavily on the basis that this was government policy driven by significant changes at EU level. But such huge expansion of the national dairy herd had unforeseen consequences on greenhouse gas emissions and a detrimental impact on water quality.

Or were these predictable consequences that were simply overlooked? In addition, the expansion of the dairy herd in Ireland saw the birth of hundreds of thousands of male calves which have no function or value in dairy production. Dairy farmers are left with the option of disposing of these animals – or trying to sell them for export to Europe's veal market. However the transportation of low value animals across the continent presents its own difficulties in terms of animal welfare. This programme investigates what is done with almost half a million young animals that nobody wants.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

10

MILKING IT: DAIRY'S DIRTY SECRET IRELAND

Submitting organisation

Raidió Teilifís Éireann – RTÉ

Contact

Frank Shouldice

frank.shouldice@rte.ie

Authors Frank Shouldice, Fran McNulty

Director / Producer Frank Shouldice

Camera Matt Naughton

Commissioning editor

David Doran (RTÉ Investigates)

Production company RTÉ

Title of series RTÉ Investigates

Length 49 min

Original language English, French

Published by RTÉ One

Date of publication 10 July 2023 at 21:35

11

OMERTA BOVEN
DE WOLKEN

THE NETHERLANDS

Submitting organisation
BNNVARA

Contact
Belinda Folkersma
zemblaproductie@bnnvara.nl

Authors Bart Nijpels, Jan Salden
Director Bart Nijpels
Camera Ton Vanderplas
Commissioning editor Roelof Bosma
Producers Belinda Folkersma, Jennifer Burger
Production company BNNVARA

Title of series Zembla

Length 48 min

Original language Dutch, English
Published by BNNVARA, NPO2
Date of publication 12 October 2023 at 20:30

OMERTA ABOVE THE CLOUDS

Ten years after the documentary 'Mayday Mayday', Dutch TV magazine Zembla shows that pilots and cabin crew members of European budget airlines continue to work despite being fatigued, sick, or in other ways unfit to fly. This jeopardises flight safety. Zembla spoke with dozens of employees from low-cost carriers. They confess going beyond professional boundaries. Pilots for instance admit they regularly fall asleep in the cockpit. Despite legal requirements to report unfitness to fly, airlines often pressure staff to keep on going. These and other irregularities are well documented. Out of fear of reprisals, personnel do not dare to address safety risks within their own company. When they turn to the European regulator EASA, their reports go unanswered. Aviation personnel and their unions criticise the agency for not responding adequately to safety concerns, and for being too financially dependent on the aviation industry. Inspections by EASA are sometimes pre-announced, raising concerns about their effectiveness. A study by the Swedish Karolinska Institute involving 10,000 aviation personnel, obtained by Zembla, underscores that flight safety is under pressure. A third of those questioned says that European aviation has become less safe. This is due to deteriorating working conditions and an increase in so-called 'atypical employment contracts', which offer little to no job security. Despite warnings about the risks of such contracts years ago, the issue persists.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

VIDEO INVESTIGATION

WE'RE HAVING A BABY

Tommy and Marie have been struggling for many years trying to start a family of their own. The couple was approaching the age of 70 and were just about to give up on their dream of becoming parents when Marie saw an ad from Nordic Surrogacy. A newly launched company had a special offer – they could guarantee a baby. Tommy and Marie wanted a boy and a girl. Since surrogacy is illegal in Sweden, the children were born in USA. Back home child protective services start to question couple's ability to take care of the children. Eventually the twins are placed in foster care.

Tobias turned to Nordic Surrogacy as well when he decided to become a single dad, his twins were born in Colombia. But the girls were born prematurely and needed advanced medical care for months. Little Alice's heart stopped several times. Tobias feels abandoned by Nordic Surrogacy, he's running out money and he is desperate to get home to Sweden with his children.

Lawyer Staffan Sörenson spent years breaking down the juridical barriers towards surrogacy making it an option for Swedes. He was the first surrogacy lawyer in Sweden. He was also one of pioneers behind the first surrogacy agency in the country – Nordic Surrogacy. Now he has turned whistleblower, revealing the industry secrets and reflecting on the role he played. Surrogacy makes the impossible possible. For the first time in history of mankind one can be guaranteed a child. But are there any guarantees for the children who are being born this way?

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

12

VI SKA HA BARN

SWEDEN

Submitting organisation
Sveriges Television – SVT

Contact
Bengt Strömbro
anna.hagnefur@svt.se

Author Bo-Göran Bodin
Director Negra Efendic
Camera Lars Granstrand, Bengt Löfgren;
Björn Olin (Drone)
Commissioning editor Axel Arnö
Producer Negra Efendic
Production company SVT

Length 59 min

Original language Swedish
Published by SVT / SVT Play
Date of publication 29 May 2024 at 06:00

13

LES BASKETS PAS SI
VERTES DE FEDERER
SWITZERLAND

FEDERER'S ECO-SNEAKERS –
REALITY OR GREEN MARKETING?

Submitting organisation
Radio Télévision Suisse – RTS / SRG SSR (Genève)

Contact
Annelaure duparc
annelaure.duparc@rts.ch

Authors Jean-Marc Chevillard,
Corinne Portier

Director Jean-Marc Chevillard

Camera Didier Petitpierre,
Patrick Mounoud, Antoine Vedeilhé

Commissioning editor Corinne Protier

Producers Jean-Philippe Ceppi,
Elisabeth Logean, Jérôme Porte,
François Roulet

Production company RTS

Title of series Temps Présent

Length 50 min

Original language French, Indian,
Italian, English, German

Published by RTS

Date of publication 13 June 2024 at 20:10

"On Running", the Zurich-based athletic footwear company, is undoubtedly the embodiment of the Swiss success story of the last decade. Known for its trainers with distinctive soles, the brand reached new heights when it teamed up with Switzerland's undisputed star, Roger Federer. This strategic collaboration propelled On Running into the global spotlight, further cementing its reputation as an innovative and desirable brand.

Throughout its meteoric rise, On Running has constantly pushed back the boundaries of marketing, setting itself apart with bold initiatives. The latest? A subscription-based running shoe, billed as the first fully recyclable, circular-design shoe. This bold promise of sustainability seems to be the climax of a brilliantly orchestrated marketing saga. However, our investigation reveals a far less idyllic reality behind the green façade. It seems that the much-vaunted shoe is not as environmentally friendly as it claims to be. Ethical questions are being asked about the true nature of its manufacture and materials. Is On Running really using environmentally friendly practices, or is the initiative just a sophisticated greenwashing operation? Does the company really operate a sustainable supply chain, or is it taking full advantage of Roger Federer's fame to cover up shady practices? Our research also reveals that there is not only an environmental and ethical problem, but also a human one.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

VIDEO INVESTIGATION

OUR DAILY MEAT

Five times more pigs than people live in Hohenrain in the Swiss canton of Lucerne. The report from the pig belt shows the ambivalence of meat production: turnover versus environmental damage. "A beautiful lump!" Pig farmer Turi Rösli touches the slippery body that's born in June and will be killed six months later at the slaughterhouse. He tags the piglet's ear with the number 6003. Turi couldn't remember a name because his 140 sows give birth to 4,000 piglets a year. The feed Turi needs for his animals is imported from as far as Brazil. His pigs produce 2000 cubic meters slurry per year; about 100 truckloads full. Turi Rösli is just one of about 500 farmers in the Lucerne pig valley with feed mills, pig and slurry transporters and slaughterhouses: The annual turnover is about one billion Swiss francs. But there is a problem: The pig valley lies next to three lakes. And these lakes are over-fertilized with slurry. Lake Baldegg has had to be artificially ventilated for 40 years. And still there is not enough oxygen at the bottom of the lake; the whitefish cannot reproduce naturally, they have to be artificially inseminated. Two other lakes nearby share the same fate. The cost to tax payers so far: around 135 million Euros. We investigate how it could happen that the Water Protection Act has been violated for 40 years!

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

14

UNSER TÄGLICH

FLEISCH

SWITZERLAND

Submitting organisation

Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen – SRF / SRG SSR

Contact

Karin Bauer

karin.bauer@srf.ch

Author / Director Karin Bauer

Camera Frank Messmer, Simon Usteri

Commissioning editor Nathalie Rufer

Producer Nathalie Rufer

Production company Swiss TV

Title of series SRF DOK

Length 52 min

Original language Swiss German

Published by Swiss TV SRF

Date of publication 14 December 2024 at 20:05

15

PERFUME'S
DARK SECRET
UNITED KINGDOM

PERFUME'S DARK SECRET

Submitting organisation
British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC

Contact
Alicia Newall
alicia.newall@bbc.co.uk

Director Natasha Cox
Camera Natasha Cox
Commissioning editor Liz Gibbons
Producer Ahmed ElShamy
Production company BBC

Title of series Eye Investigations

Length 42 min

Original language English
Published by BBC iPlayer
Date of publication 28 May 2024 at 00:00

Top Beauty brands Aerin Beauty and Lancome may have "worst form of child labour" in their supply chain, a BBC World Service investigation has revealed. BBC Eye investigations takes you to the heart of the jasmine trade in Egypt, to reveal dark secrets behind the perfume industry. During the Summer of 2023, the BBC visited four different locations across the al Gharbia region in Egypt, and found that a significant number of jasmine pickers were children working in dangerous conditions throughout the night. Pickers are earning as little as a dollar a day, while huge profits are made by giants in the industry. Over half of the world's supply of jasmine is produced in Egypt and this story explores the true human cost of this precious flower, considered to be one of the most valuable ingredients used in some of the world's most iconic perfumes. Billion dollar global companies, such as Estée Lauder and L'Oréal who use Egyptian jasmine in their perfumes, claim to have zero tolerance on child labour throughout their supply chains. But the BBC can reveal that in the 2023 jasmine harvest season, children – some as young as five years old – were working in the jasmine fields that were supplying these global brands through factories in Egypt. The UN Special rapporteur reviewed the BBC's evidence independently and concluded that due to the detrimental impact that this work has on the children's health and education, it may "constitute the worst form of child labour."

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Investigation of the Year

PRIX EUROPA 2024

Video Fiction Category

Awards

- ★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Video Fiction of the Year
- ★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year
- ★ PRIX EUROPA
Best European Video Fiction Series of the Year

Jury Group Coordinators

Sven Wälti
SRG SSR, Switzerland

Mirande de Jong
BNNVARA, The Netherlands

01	Chantal	Belgium
02	Memoir of a Betrayal	Bulgaria
03	The Saint	Czech Republic
04	Last to Brake	Finland
05	Seconds	Finland
06	All This I Will Give to You	France
07	Criminal Son	France
08	More Likely that UFOs Will Fly Here	Germany
09	PUSH – Every Beginning	Germany
10	The Night Between Us	Germany
11	The Zweiflers	Germany
12	Elsa Morante's La Storia	Italy
13	Mucked Up	The Netherlands
14	Santos	The Netherlands
15	The Jewish Council	The Netherlands
16	Dates in Real Life	Norway
17	What Happened to Solveig?	Norway
18	The Bay of Spies	Poland
19	Time of Hopes	Slovakia
20	Eighteen	Spain
21	Gaslight	Sweden
22	Pressure Point	Sweden
23	Davos 1917	Switzerland
24	In Her Car: Two Sisters	Ukraine

VIDEO FICTION

Timetable

MONDAY 7 October

9:30		Jury Group Briefing		
10:00	23	Davos 1917	Switzerland	48 min
10:55	13	Mucked Up	The Netherlands	22 min
11:20		Break		
11:50	03	The Saint	Czech Republic	84 min
13:15		Lunch		
14:10	06	All This I Will Give to You	France	47 min
15:00	01	Chantal	Belgium	50 min
15:50		Break		
16:20	11	The Zweiflers	Germany	57 min
17:30		Start of Discussion		

TUESDAY 8 October

9:30	14	Santos	The Netherlands	45 min
10:20	05	Seconds	Finland	52 min
11:15		Break		
11:45	02	Memoir of a Betrayal	Bulgaria	94 min
13:20		Lunch		
14:15	07	Criminal Son	France	86 min
15:40		Break		
16:10	09	PUSH - Every Beginning	Germany	43 min
17:00		Start of Discussion		

WEDNESDAY 9 October

9:30	18	The Bay of Spies	Poland	45 min
10:20	21	Gaslight	Sweden	37 min
11:00		Break		
11:30	15	The Jewish Council	The Netherlands	46 min
12:20	16	Dates in Real Life	Norway	24 min
12:45		Lunch		
13:45	24	In Her Car: Two Sisters	Ukraine	31 min
14:20	20	Eighteen	Spain	33 min
14:55		Break		
15:20	10	The Night Between Us	Germany	109 min
17:15		Start of Discussion		

THURSDAY 10 October

9:30	12	Elsa Morante's La Storia	Italy	55 min
10:30	17	What Happened to Solveig?	Norway	24 min
10:55		Break		
11:25	19	Time of Hopes	Slovakia	57 min
12:25	22	Pressure Point	Sweden	59 min
13:25		Lunch		
14:20	08	More Likely that UFOs Will Fly Here	Germany	89 min
15:50		Break		
16:20	04	Last to Brake	Finland	49 min
17:15		Start of Discussion		

VIDEO FICTION

CHANTAL

Inspector Chantal Vantomme begins a new life in Loveringem, also known as the western end of Flanders, as the new coordinator of the small rural police office.

In this episode Internal Affairs are looking into Chantal's handling of the hostage-taking at Loveringem town hall. Much to his reluctance, Cloedt becomes chief ad interim. He is even assigned a trainee, a young West Flemish African woman, Felke Debruyne, who can certainly stand her own. As Chantal is suspended, D'Haese enlists her help for a private matter. And Sylvie is having an affair with a certain Miguel. When it is revealed that Miguel is a serial conman who is after his female victims' money, the case takes a new turn.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

01

CHANTAL

BELGIUM

Submitting organisation

Vlaamse Radio- en Televisieomroep – VRT

Contact

Franky Audenaerde

franky.audenaerde@vrt.be

Author Mathias Sercu

Director Jeroen Dumoulein

Camera Patrick Tilkens

Commissioning editor Wim Janssen

Producers Peter Bouckaert, Wendy Ingelrelst

Production company

Eyeworks Film & TV Drama

Title of series Chantal (Season 2)

Episode 1 of 6

Length 50 min

Original language Dutch

Published by Streamz

Date of publication 29 December 2023 at 06:00

02

ZAPISKI PO EDNO
PREDATELSTVO
BULGARIA

MEMOIR OF A BETRAYAL

Submitting organisation
Bulgarian National Television – BNT

Contact
Juliana Boianova
juliana.boianova@bnt.bg

Author / Director Georgi Djulgerov
Camera Vesselin Hristov
Commissioning editor Borislav Kolev
Producer Miladin Gergov
Production company BNT

Length 94 min
Original language Bulgarian
Published by BNT1

Date of publication 30 September 2024 at 21:00

A tale of war and peace, guilt and justice, friendship and humanity. Zahariy Stoyanov and Georgi Benkovski were friends and brothers in arms who fought together in The April Uprising of 1876 against the Ottoman Empire.

But after the riot is put down, Georgi Benkovski is betrayed by one of his own and killed. Zahariy is the only witness of his murder. Ten years after the liberation of Bulgaria from the Ottoman rule, Zahariy Stoyanov meets Georgi Benkovski's traitor Old Valyu. Accompanied by three friends and a few mounted gendarmes, he attempts to arrest the old man. At the very place of Georgi Benkovski's death, Old Valyu denies his betrayal. People who are present at this scene, do not know exactly who Benkovski is. In their region, they call him Hadji Georgi.

This is why Zahariy tells them the story of Georgi Benkovski, describing the bravery of his exploit. Bit by bit he remembers the last days of Georgi Benkovski, their first meeting with Grandpa Valyu and the treacherous trap.

But Zahariy appeals to the traitor Grandpa Valyu, because the memory of being a slave is fresh for him too and because he refuses to believe that the Bulgarians are a traitorous tribe.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

THE SAINT

A story about truth and lies, the painful past and the complex twists and turns of interpersonal relationships, inspired by a true story. Olga is a 90-year-old, vital pensioner who lives in an old house together with her daughter, the teacher Hana. Their relationship is somewhat strained and marked by more than one trauma from the past. Olga survived the horrors of the Gulag and today she writes books and talks about it. The President even wants to award her a state decoration. As a result, journalists are beginning to take an interest in Olga. Everything would have seemed sunny if the journalist Zuzana Dastychová hadn't turned up one day, and with her came her probing questions. What's wrong with this story? And why? Gradually, the journalist uncovers a number of historical and factual inconsistencies in Olga's story. But Olga eventually explains all her doubts satisfactorily and the big newspaper interview is a great success with the readers. However, her daughter Hana, who translates the book into English, begins to doubt her mother's veracity more and more. In the end it turns out that Olga has appropriated the story of someone else, the real Gulag prisoner Anna. The journalist Dastychová finds Olga's lie justifiable because Olga tells a real and true story, even if not her own, and manages to enthuse the children at her talks in a way that no history teacher can. Hana, on the other hand, feels fatally betrayed by her mother.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction of the Year

03

SVATÁ

CZECH REPUBLIC

Submitting organisation

Česká televize – ČT

Contact

Zuzana Černá

zuzana.cerna2@ceskatelevize.cz

Author Marek Epstein

Director Jiří Strach

Camera Martin Šec

Commissioning editor Jaroslav Sedláček

Producers Jaroslav Sedláček (Creative),

Monika Effenbergerová (Executive)

Production company Czech Television

Length 84 min

Original language Czech

Published by Czech TV, Channel: ČT1

Date of publication 19 May 2024 at 20:10

04

JARNO JA MINÄ

FINLAND

LAST TO BRAKE

Submitting organisation
Yle, the Finnish Broadcasting Company

Contact
Samu Reijonen
samu.reijonen@yle.fi

Author Sami Keski-Vähälä
Director Simon Kaijser
Camera Mario Poljac
Commissioning editor Jarmo Lampela
Producer Timo Vierimaa
Production company Funfar
Co-producer Fireframe

Title of series Last to Brake
Episode 1 of 6

Length 49 min
Original language Finnish
Published by Yle Tv1
Date of publication 19 April 2024 at 21:00

If life is short, can it still be full?

This mini-series based on true events takes Jarno and Soili on an incredible journey to the World Championship of motorcycle racing. Jarno Saarinen, a natural talent as a motorcycle racer, boldly steps into the world of professionals as an amateur during the golden age of the early 1970s. Together, Jarno and Soili travel across European racetracks, propelled by love and motorcycles. As the sport commercialises, dangers and speeds increase, but is love enough to conquer all?

In the first episode, Jarno Saarinen and his partner and mechanic, Soili, make their entrance into the competitive world at the Imatra races. Their arrival marks the beginning of an intense journey through the motorcycle racing scene, highlighting their unique personal and professional relationship. They navigate the challenges and camaraderie of the racing world, setting the stage for future competitions. Simultaneously, tension brews in a rival team as Phil Read defies team orders, creating a controversy that exposes the pressures and politics within professional racing.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

SECONDS

Marita crosses a police cordon and continues towards an idyllic town's railway square, where a nightmarish scene opens up before her: A black crater is smoldering where the train station and railyard stood. The fire and rescue teams have been working all night to extinguish the blaze, but the cause of the explosion remains unknown. At this point, all eyes turn to Marita. She is expected to decipher the clues about what happened – and above all, why!?

As Marita listens to eyewitnesses, she is able to step into their inner realities as vividly as if she had been present herself. This gift is what makes Marita extraordinarily good at her work. But Marita also comes across people who want to hide the mistakes they have made. She is lied to by those who want to protect a loved one or save a business. She must deal with political pressures, unproved suspicions and officials with dubious motives. As always, the accident investigators are working against the clock.

Meanwhile, Marita is engaged in a more personal struggle. The combination of her vivid imagination, profound empathy and psychologically taxing work have produced a curious side effect: Marita has an 18-year-old daughter no one else can see – because she lives solely in Marita's mind. Marita no longer feels like she has the situation under control. What if the world found out that the expert in charge of ensuring the nation's safety is seeing things that aren't there?

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

05

SEKUNNIT

FINLAND

Submitting organisation
Fire Monkey Productions

Contact
Hannu Kalliolahti
hannu@firemonkey.fi

Author Laura Suhonen
Director Mikko Kuparinen
Camera Tuomo Virtanen
Commissioning editor Jarmo Lampela
Producer Saara Kankaanpää
Production company Fire Monkey Productions
Co-producer NDR

Title of series Seconds
Episode 1 of 6

Length 52 min
Original language Finnish
Published by
Yle, the Finnish Broadcasting Company
Date of publication 4 April 2024 at 21:00

06

TOUT CELA JE TE
LE DONNERAI
FRANCE

ALL THIS I WILL GIVE TO YOU

Submitting organisation
France Télévisions

Contact
Dounia Taha
dounia.taha@francetv.fr

Author Françoise Charpiat
Director Nicolas Guicheteau
Camera Jérôme Carles
Commissioning editor Anne Holmes
Producer Édouard de Vésinne
Production company Incognita
Co-producers Room 237 & HDC,
with the participation of France Télévisions

Title of series All This I Will Give to You
Episode 1 of 6

Length 47 min
Original language French
Published by France 2
Date of publication 2 July 2024 at 21:10

Manuel, a renowned writer, is working on his next book in his Paris apartment. Suddenly, the doorbell rings. It's the police: Aymeric, his husband, has just died in a car accident near Aix-en-Provence. Manuel cannot bring himself to accept the news. His husband was on the move in Brussels, impossible that he was found in Provence. But the authorities are formal: Aymeric's body has been identified by his family, who live not far from the accident. Manuel's disbelief immediately turns to amazement. Aymeric had always told him that he had cut off all contact with his family.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

CRIMINAL SON

As the Boissinot family prepares to go on vacation, the police burst in. Thomas is arrested. He is 16 years old.
Eric and Laurence discover that they are the parents of a rapist.
Thus begin the questioning and the legal process for the couple.
What did they miss?
Have they failed in their duty as parents?
Could they have given birth to such a monster?

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction of the Year

07

PARENTS À PERPÉTUITÉ FRANCE

Submitting organisation
France Télévisions

Contact
Dounia Taha
dounia.taha@francetv.fr

Author Julie Jézéquel
Adapted from Parents à perpétuité
by Sophie and Dominique Moulinas
Director Safy Nebbou
Camera Gilles Porte
Commissioning editor Anne Holmes
Producer Laurent Ceccaldi
Production company En Voiture Simone
Co-producers BE-Films, RTBF, with the
participation of France Télévisions

Length 86 min
Original language French
Published by France 2
Date of publication 29 May 2024 at 21:10

08

EHER FLIEGEN
HIER UFOS
GERMANY

MORE LIKELY THAT UFOS
WILL FLY HERE

Submitting organisation
Westdeutscher Rundfunk – WDR / ARD

Contact
Lukas Riedel
lukas.riedel@wdr.de

Author Ingo Haeb
Directors Gina Wenzel, Ingo Haeb
Camera Olaf Hirschberg
Commissioning editors Lucia Keuter,
Anke Hirschel, Corinna Liedtke
Producer Ingmar Trost
Production company Sutor Kolonko e.K.

Length 89 min
Original language German
Published by ARD – Das Erste
Date of publication 8 November 2023 at 20:15

The village of Niersdorf on the Lower Rhine is to make way for lignite mining in a few years' time. Since the death of her husband, Marita Baumanns has been running the family bakery there together with her brother-in-law Klaus, his wife Irene and their daughter Natalie.

The Baumanns want to stay in Niersdorf "until the excavators come". However, the cracks that run through the village community due to the impending relocation initially affect the business and ultimately the Baumanns' family structure.

The film effortlessly jumps through its timeline of five years, also characterised by global events like the pandemic that cancels the carnival in Niersdorf.

The Baumanns have long since left Niersdorf when they learn in the very end the excavators are – indeed! – not coming and that Ukrainian refugees are moving into their old village.

This film explores the challenges that structural change poses on people in times of global crises. With humour and authenticity it shows that there are real people and a real drama behind this story which Ingo Haeb researched for years.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

PUSH – EVERY BEGINNING

Bursting amniotic bags, babies in a pelvic position, premature contractions: for the midwives Nalan, Anna and Greta a state of emergency is the order of the day.

The mini-series revolves around everyday life at the Helenen Clinic in Berlin. In this episode midwife Nalan has been assisting Kathi, a mother in labour, for 20 hours, but the birth is barely progressing. Simultaneously, Nalan must continue her own hormone treatment, hoping her dream of becoming a mother herself will soon come true. When Kathi's baby's blood test results deteriorate, senior physician Dr. Charlotte Mohn makes a critical decision: the baby must be delivered by caesarean section. Consequently, Nalan has no time for midwifery student Greta, who has just started working at the clinic. Instead, Greta is paired off with the experienced midwife Anna, who takes her to meet her patient Lea. Lea's baby is in a breech position, with its bottom facing downwards – a challenging but not impossible position for birth. Most clinics opt for a caesarean section in such cases, but Anna and head physician Dr. Barbara Keller still perform vaginal deliveries. At the crucial moment, however, Dr. Keller is nowhere to be found, leaving Anna to decide whether to proceed with the delivery on her own. Ultimately, the question arises: Why aren't women celebrated as superheroes for giving birth, and midwives for their essential work? For Anna and Nalan, the reality is far different and far more challenging: they and the clinic are being sued for alleged malpractice.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

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PUSH – JEDEM ANFANG GERMANY

Submitting organisation

Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen – ZDF

Contact

Gudrun Borenberg

borenberg.g@zdf.de

Author Luisa Hardenberg

Directors

Katja Benrath, Mia Maariel Meyer (Ep 4-6)

Camera

Carolina Steinbrecher, Lotta Kilian (Ep 4-6)

Commissioning editors

Diana Kraus, Eva Klöcker

Producer Jochen Cremer

Production company Bantry Bay Productions

Co-producers NPO, SVT, VRT, DR, NRK, Yle, RÚV (New 8-Projekt)

Title of series PUSH

Episode 1 of 6

Length 43 min

Original language German

Published by ZDFneo

Date of publication 10 March 2024 at 20:15

10

ZWISCHEN UNS
DIE NACHT
GERMANY

THE NIGHT BETWEEN US

Submitting organisation
Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen – ZDF

Contact
Gudrun Borenberg
borenberg.g@zdf.de

Author / Director Abini Gold

Camera Marvin Schatz

Commissioning editors Sara Günter,
Burkhard Althoff

Producer Magdalena Wolff

Production company Kojoten Filmproduktion

Co-producers ZDF,
Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg

Length 109 min

Original language German

Published by ZDF

Date of publication 8 August 2023 at 23:25

Marie (25) is a young mother who is unhappy with her role in life. Temporarily living in a caravan with her son Lenny (5), she keeps her head above water by working a casual job at a gas station.

Money for clothes and food is scarce, and Marie isn't exactly living the life she always imagined. When she meets the showman's assistant Erich, she becomes fascinated by him.

Marie accepts his invitation to work with him at the fairgrounds, where she meets Erich's colleague Haro. Immersing herself in the bright, lively atmosphere of the fair, Marie experiences a whole different side of life. She is drawn to the excitement and the sense of community she finds among the fair workers. For the first time in a long while, Marie feels a spark of hope and adventure.

An intoxicating love develops between Marie and Erich, and she begins to dream of a future filled with the thrill of the fair. However, as their romance blossoms, the friendship among the three starts to crumble. Haro, who initially seemed like a friend, begins to show signs of jealousy and resentment. The dynamics within their trio become increasingly tense.

The situation reaches a breaking point when Haro's reckless behaviour puts Lenny in danger. Marie's maternal instincts kick in, and she decides she must prioritise her son's safety. With a heavy heart, she chooses to leave the exciting yet unstable world of the fair behind, along with her relationship with Erich.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

THE ZWEIFLERS

Samuel Zweifler, a Berlin music manager, finds himself at a pivotal juncture, navigating the intricate balance between his Jewish heritage and the evolving dynamics within his family's beloved deli chain. When his grandfather Symcha discloses the decision to sell their cherished establishment to an investor, Samuel is engulfed in a whirlwind of conflicting emotions and nostalgic reminiscence. The deli, nestled in the vibrant Bahnhofsviertel of Frankfurt, holds a profound significance in Samuel's heart, serving not only as a thriving business but also as a sacred sanctuary of tradition and kinship, embodying the essence of their familial legacy. Amidst the upheaval, Samuel's chance encounter with Saba, an enigmatic pop-up restaurant chef, injects a newfound vitality into his life. Their initial meeting during a dinner with Samuel's old Frankfurt acquaintances sparks an instant connection, compelling Samuel to boldly ask Saba out. Despite the uncertainty looming over Samuel's familial ties, the burgeoning chemistry between him and Saba ignites sparks of passion, drawing them irresistibly closer. Meanwhile, Symcha's past reappears in the form of Juden-Siggi, a reminder of the deli's roots in the red-light district. As if that's not enough, Saba discovers she's pregnant, throwing another curveball into the young relationship.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

11

DIE ZWEIFLERS GERMANY

Submitting organisation
Turbokultur GmbH

Contact
Betty Severin
betty@turbokultur.com

Authors David Hadda, Juri Sternburg,
Sarah Hadda
Director Anja Marquardt
Camera Phillip Kaminiak
Commissioning editor Vincent Assmann
Producers David Hadda, Martin Danisch
Production company Turbokultur GmbH
Co-producers ARD Degeto Film GmbH;
Carolyn Haasis, Christoph Pellander
(ARD Degeto), Jörg Himstedt (hr)

Title of series Die Zweiflers
Episode 1 of 6

Length 57 min
Original language German, Yiddish, English
Published by ARD Mediathek, ARD – Das Erste
Date of publication 3 May 2024 at 00:00

12

LA STORIA

ITALY

ELSA MORANTE'S LA STORIA

Submitting organisation
Radiotelevisione Italiana – Rai

Contact
Mariangela Borneo
mariangela.borneo@rai.it

Authors Giulia Calenda,
Ilaria Macchia, Francesco Piccolo
Adapted from the novel La Storia
by Elsa Morante
Director Francesca Archibugi
Camera Elisabetta Boni
Producer Roberto Sessa
Production company Rai
Co-producers PICOMEDIA,
Rai Fiction, Thalie Images, Betafilm

Title of series La Storia
Episode 1 of 8

Length 55 min
Original language Italian
Published by Rai 1

Date of publication 8 January 2024 at 21:15

Rome, San Lorenzo district. On the eve of World War II, Ida Ramundo, a widowed elementary school teacher with a teenage son named Nino, decides to hide her Jewish origins for fear of deportation. One day, as she returns home, she is assaulted by a German soldier, a drunken teenage boy. After the initial shock, anguish, and shame, she discovers she is pregnant.

While Nino spends the summer at the Avanguardisti camp, Ida secretly gives birth to a premature, small, and quiet baby boy with the same big blue eyes as his father, the young German soldier who had already died in Africa. When Nino returns home and discovers his little brother, he immediately accepts him and falls in love with him. He nicknames him Useppe.

The small family is torn apart by the events of the war: first, Nino, a staunch fascist, decides to leave for the front against Ida's wishes, leaving her alone with Useppe; then, in the bombing of San Lorenzo in July 1943, their home is destroyed. Ida loses everything and is forced to evacuate to Pietralata. From that moment on, every day becomes a struggle for survival for herself and her child.

Meanwhile, Useppe grows up waiting for his brother's return, to whom he is bound by an unbreakable love. Nino, driven by a sometimes desperate vitality, is propelled towards the armed Resistance, towards love, towards his comrades, full of desires: more money, more business, more adventure.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Series of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

MUCKED UP

This mini-series follows the destructive life of 37-year-old Cat. People around her worry. Cat doesn't.

Due to a major loss within the family, which is hardly ever talked about, there is barely a family left around her. Cat's mother Cecile has constant panic attacks. Her father Anthony has become a self-proclaimed coach focused on writing self-help books. And her half-sister Sally is terrifying. While just about everyone around Cat is reproducing, getting promotions, and settling down – among them her best friend Jana – it is difficult for her to enter a long-term relationship with someone. She has a fling with a young influencer that ends in a viral song and a burgeoning yet complicated romance with a colleague. Everyone else seems to be hysterically trying to be seen; Cat does everything she can to disappear as much as possible. Disappear into the night, underwater, into her own mind.

Eva Crutzen is not only the creator, writer and director, she also plays the main character herself.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

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BODEM

THE NETHERLANDS

Submitting organisation

Topkapi Films

Contact

Charlotte Bouman

info@topkapifilms.nl

Author / Director Eva Crutzen

Camera Tom Bakker

Commissioning editor Robert Kievit

Producer Laurette Schillings

Production company Topkapi Series

Co-producer BNNVARA

Title of series Mucked Up

Episode 1 of 6

Length 22 min

Original language Dutch

Published by NPO3

Date of publication 11 March 2024 at 21:15

14

SANTOS

THE NETHERLANDS

SANTOS

Submitting organisation
Topkapi Films

Contact
Charlotte Bouman
info@topkapifilms.nl

Authors Chris Westendorp, Ashar Medina

Directors Giancarlo Sánchez, Ivan Barbosa

Camera Gregg Telussa

Commissioning editor Robert Kievit

Producer Laurette Schillings

Production company Topkapi Series

Co-producer BNNVARA

Title of series Santos
Episode 1 of 8

Length 45 min

Original language Dutch

Published by NPO3

Date of publication 9 November 2023 at 20:30

Glenn and Yola live together and are happy. Glenn, who loves to cook, tries to finish culinary school while Yola works for an NGO.

Glenn is more streetwise and Yola comes from the successful self-made entrepreneurial family Dos Santos. They try to manoeuvre in a world full of prejudice. Both are very aware of how they are perceived by others and always try to do 'the right thing,' each in their own way. But what is 'the right thing'?

When Glenn's friend Jermaine does some criminal odd jobs on the side and needs him, Glenn gets into a quandary. Shouldn't he be there for Jermaine, like they always have been since childhood? Glenn initially abstains from street trading. But when Kikker, an uncouth criminal and Glenn's former employer, gets out of prison and reports back to the area, Glenn is faced with another difficult decision. Does he choose loyalty to Kikker, or to his new life with Yola, as he promised?

Glenn chooses to be true to his friendship after Jermaine is beaten up. When Yola discovers that Glenn is hiding his hustling from her, she's furious. But Yola has secrets too: Dos Santos stands not only for the successful and well-known Rotterdam drinks wholesaler, but also for ruthless coke trading in utmost secrecy.

Questions about what is right and wrong are a constant source of dramatic conflict, but this is put into perspective with the necessary humour and perception. Because no matter how difficult Glenn and Yola make it for themselves, in the end they always seem able to fall back on each other.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Series of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

THE JEWISH COUNCIL

During 1940-1945, more Jews were deported from the Netherlands than from any other Western European country. How was this possible? How did the German occupiers get Dutch authorities and Jews to cooperate in this horrific project?

This historical drama mini-series tells the tragic story of a father and daughter who try to do the right thing according to their beliefs, increasingly finding themselves at odds. The chairman of the Jewish Council, David Cohen, cooperates with the German occupiers "to prevent worse", unintentionally facilitating the deportation of over 100,000 Jewish Dutch people.

His daughter Virrie risks her life to save hundreds of Jewish children. A story of a father and daughter drifting apart in a world that knows only losers.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

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DE JOODSE RAAD

THE NETHERLANDS

Submitting organisation

Evangelische Omroep – EO

Contact

Remco Geuze

remco.geuze@eo.nl

Authors Roos Ouwehand, Paul Jan Nelissen

Director Paula van der Oest

Camera Coen Stroeve

Commissioning editor Arnoud Bruinier

Producers Alain De Levita, Mark van Eeuwen,

Matthijs van Heijningen, Paula van der Oest

Production company Levitate Film

Co-producers EO, Caviar

Title of series The Jewish Council

Episode 1 of 5

Length 46 min

Original language Dutch

Published by NPO1 / NPO Start

Date of publication 10 March 2024 at 21:23

16

DATES IN REAL LIFE

NORWAY

DATES IN REAL LIFE

Submitting organisation
Maipo Film

Contact
Petter Onstad Løkke
petter@maipo.no

Author / Director Jakob Rørvik
Camera Torjus Thesen
Commissioning editor Alec Thom
Producers

Petter Onstad Løkke, Synnøve Hørsdal
Production company Maipo Film

Title of series Dates in Real Life
Episode 1 of 7

Length 24 min
Original language Norwegian
Published by NRK

Date of publication 5 September 2024 at 06:00

Ida spends most of her life online. Together with the American Marvin, whom she's never met in person, they have built a life together in Virtual Reality. On the day of their 3 year celebration as a couple, Marvin drops the bomb. He has met another woman IRL – in real life. Marvin wants to be with Ida, but he wants it to be more than online. Ida cannot believe it. Her world collapses.

Motivated by her loyal online friends, Ida sets out on a quest to find her own physical partner. She gathers the courage to go on her first date with a guy called Einar. But while she is confident, sexy and smart in the online space, she really feels like a fish out of water in the outside world, having to pretend she is someone she's not.

While the date is a major failure, she at least was able to break the barrier of meeting someone. This leads her on a quest to find a physical partner, and hopefully find love. A quest that will lead her out of her social comfort zone, forcing her to confront herself about who she is in this world. Who is she IRL? If she is to find true love, she first has to find her true self.

Through a tumultuous year, Ida's experiences and new acquaintances take her to unexpected places. All the while she never loses hope getting back together with the one true love of her life – Marvin.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Series of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

WHAT HAPPENED TO SOLVEIG?

This is a true crime parody, with actor and comedian Kevin Vågenes in all leading roles.

In 2013, the popular blogger Solveig Lyngåsen was killed in the small village of Nesvågen, while she was filming herself for a blog post. Unfortunately, it was impossible to identify the perpetrator on the film. Ten years later, the murder is still unsolved. Journalists Henrik and Rachel decide to dig into the case, hoping to give Solveig's family an answer. They quickly find out that the petty criminal Ole-Glenn Averøy, who ten years ago was suspected but not convicted, is still ostracised and hated by the village's inhabitants. But Henrik and Rachel suspect that the reason this case has never been solved, is that the police have only investigated Ole-Glenn, because he is the only criminal in the village. But as Henrik and Rachel continue to dig, questions start to appear. Why does Solveig's hairdresser lie about what they talked about when he stripped her hair the day she was killed? Why did her best friend, who was the last person to see Solveig alive, never speak out about the case? Why does Solveig's stepsister talk so badly about her, when everyone else thinks Solveig was the world's most wonderful person? As Henrik and Rachel continue to dig, they find more and more residents of Nesvågen who had good reasons to get rid of Solveig. But what they find out in the end, they could never have imagined.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Series of the Year

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HVA SKJEDDE MED SOLVEIG? NORWAY

Submitting organisation
Seefood TV

Contact
Kamilla Endal
kamilla@seefood.no

Author Martin Zimmer
Director Lars Kristian Flemmen
Camera Matt Weston
Commissioning editor Caroline Øigarden
Producer Aleksander Herresthal
Production company Seefood TV

Title of series What Happened to Solveig?
Episode 1 of 8

Length 24 min
Original language Norwegian
Published by NRK
Date of publication 18 August 2023 at 21:00

18

ZATOKA SZPIGÓW

POLAND

THE BAY OF SPIES

Submitting organisation
Telewizja Polska S.A. – TVP

Contact
Aleksandra Prokopiuk
aleksandra.prokopiuk@tvp.pl

Authors Wojciech Lepianka, Michał Godzic
Director Michał Rogalski
Camera Maciej Lisiecki
Commissioning editor Andrzej Burakowski
Producers Michał Kwieciński (Akson Studio),
Andrzej Burakowski (TVP)
Production company TVP

Title of series The Bay of Spies
Episode 1 of 9

Length 45 min
Original language Polish
Published by TVP1
Date of publication 7 January 2024 at 20:15

Gdynia, summer of 1940.

Franz Neumann is a 24-year-old Abwehr lieutenant. His stepfather, a high-ranking officer in the Gdańsk police, raised Franz with a firm hand, reserving warmer feelings for his younger brother, Otto, who is about to set sail on his first combat mission aboard a destroyer.

Franz has been assigned to cooperate with the Kriegsmarine, and his immediate superior is Commander Kessler. Franz doesn't refrain from alcohol or drugs, which are readily available in the port city.

During one of his visits to a bar, he gets into a fight, defending the waitress Anna. The young woman allows Franz to walk her home.

When they arrive at her place, it becomes apparent that Anna is a Polish woman whom Franz has known since childhood. When Anna suggests that his father might have been Polish, Franz becomes angry. He suddenly loses consciousness. The following morning, he wakes up to the sight of Anna's lifeless body beneath the tenement's window.

All evidence points to her being thrown out. In a panic, Franz flees.

Soon, he's discovered by a bartender named Johann, who has incriminating photos – clear evidence that he's responsible for Anna's death. Johann offers a deal – in exchange for recovering the photo negatives, Franz must provide information to British intelligence. With no other options, Franz agrees.

The information about his Polish father haunts him. He visits his mother to learn the truth.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Series of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

TIME OF HOPES

This series depicts the fate of the Violovský family in the context of Central and Eastern Europe from the collapse of Austria-Hungary through both World Wars up to 1951.

The story begins in 1914, just before the outbreak of World War I, in a multicultural city in Austria-Hungary. Young Róza Belzberg, the daughter of a wealthy local German butcher, is in love with Géza, son of the Slovak innkeeper Violovský. However, for Géza, Róza is just a little girl from the neighbourhood and he does not even realise that she is admiring him. Géza's head is full of other plans. He is trying to persuade his conservative father to invest in their own distillery, which will bring more profit to their tavern. However, the father does not want to take the risk.

The situation changes when Belzberg comes to the Violovský family with an offer. If Géza marries Róza, he will give her a decent dowry, with which Géza can buy a distillery. Although Géza does not love Róza, the offer is too tempting, so he agrees to the wedding.

Róza is happy and enjoys her wedding, to which her brother Willy, an officer in the Austro-Hungarian army comes. However, her happiness lasts only until the wedding night, when she discovers that the marriage will not be as she imagined. The next day World War I breaks out, and men have to join the army. While Róza has to get used to her husband's new home, in which his mother Gréta rules with a firm hand, Géza and Willy live through the hell of war in the trenches.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Series of the Year

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ČAS NÁDEJÍ

SLOVAKIA

Submitting organisation

Slovak Television and Radio – STVR

Contact

Slavomíra Kubičková

interrel@rtvs.sk

Author Scarlett Čanákyová

Director Ján Sebechlebský

Camera Tomáš Stanek

Commissioning editor Dana Garguláková

Producers Zuzana Balkóová, Erik Panák

Production company

Radio and Television Slovakia (RTVS)

Co-producer Arina Film Production Slovakia

Title of series Čas nádejí / Time of Hopes

Episode 1 of 8

Length 57 min

Original language Slovak

Published by RTVS, Jednotka (First channel)

Date of publication 7 January 2024 at 20:30

20

DIECIOCHO

SPAIN

EIGHTEEN

Submitting organisation
Set Màgic Audiovisual

Contact
Tiffany Ruoz
tiffany@setmagic.com

Authors Pau Escribano,
Damià Serra Cauchetiez

Directors Hammudi Al-Rahmoun Font,
Damià Serra Cauchetiez

Camera Andreu Adam Rubiralta

Commissioning editor RTVE

Producers Oriol Marcos, Lorena Torres

Production company Little Dreams Films AIE

Co-producers RTVE, Set Màgic Audiovisual,
The Fly Hunter, Empatic Films

Title of series Eighteen
Episode 1 of 6

Length 33 min

Original language Spanish, Valencian, Arabic

Published by RTVE, À Punt, IB3

Date of publication 30 September 2024 at 20:00

Cèlia and Moha meet in a kitchen. For Cèlia, this job is a sentence: She must complete community service hours, forced by a judge. For Moha, this job is a prize that brings him closer to getting his papers. Both are reluctant to collaborate. Cèlia is plagued by prejudice, while Moha feels Cèlia has usurped the job meant for his friend Ayoub. As they work together, however, Cèlia and Moha discover they are not so different and begin to feel attracted to each other. Life is not easy for either of them. Moha lives in a foster home, and Cèlia has problems at home. Sandra, the social worker, confronts Moha about food theft from the kitchen, risking his expulsion. Cèlia emphasises with him and invites him out. Their bond grows as they navigate their challenges, finding solace in each other's company. Eventually Moha is arrested and must pass medical tests to determine his age, risking his job and shelter. Cèlia supports him but avoids being seen with him due to lingering prejudices. Their relationship is strained, and Moha's situation exhausts him. This intimate mini-series explores the dreams, prejudices, and loneliness of young protagonists discovering their first love.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

GASLIGHT

After a party night where Nora gets rejected by her great love, she finds out that she has not gotten into her dream course, journalism. In an attempt to forget the failures, Nora gets drunk and suddenly meets Simon, whom she also met at a previous party night. He seems stable, warm and present. He follows her home but doesn't take advantage of the situation.

After a cozy date, she invites Simon home to a laugh-filled dinner with her flatmates. Simon quickly steps forward and posts a picture of Nora on his Instagram account. Nora becomes a little worried about the intensity of their relationship, but friends reassure her. Nora receives a strange text message from Simon's ex warning her about Simon, but Simon explains that she is mentally ill. Simon takes her to his cabin. Once they get there there is a power cut. Nora, who has told him how afraid she is of the dark, panics, but Simon is nowhere to be found. Suddenly the power is back on and Simon re-appears to comfort her.

After the weekend in the country, Nora decides to move in with Simon – a decision questioned by her flatmates. One night Nora ends up in a situation that then escalates and turns into one of the worst nights of her life: a deeply jealous Simon rapes her. Simon turns the whole situation against her and wants her to move out. Nora starts to question herself and her own memories at the same time becoming more and more absorbed by her new boyfriend, who keeps shifting between reeling her in and letting her go ...

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Series of the Year

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GASLIGHT

SWEDEN

Submitting organisation
Sveriges Television – SVT

Contact
Bengt Strömbro
bengt.strombro@svt.se

Author / Director Therese Lundberg
Camera Jonatan Gammel, Alexander Berg
Commissioning editor Petter Bragée
Producer Sanne Övermark
Production company Art & Bob Television
commissioned by SVT
Co-producers Nordvision, NRK, Yle

Title of series Gaslight
Episode 1 of 9

Length 37 min
Original language Swedish
Published by SVT Play / SVT1
Date of publication 29 September 2023 at 02:00

22

SMÄRTPUNKTEN

SWEDEN

PRESSURE POINT

Submitting organisation
Sveriges Television – SVT

Contact
Bengt Strömbro
bengt.strombro@svt.se

Author Pelle Rådström
Adapted from the book Smärtpunkten
by Elisabeth Åsbrink

Director Sanna Lenken

Camera Jonas Alarik

Commissioning editors
Anna Croneman, (Göran Danasten)

Producers Petra Jönsson, Martina Stöhr

Production companies Art & Bob, Kärnfilm

Co-producers SVT, Film i Väst,

Film Stockholm, Kärnfilm, Yle,

NRK, DR, RÚV

Title of series Pressure Point
Episode 1 of 3

Length 59 min

Original language Swedish

Published by SVT1 / SVT Play

Date of publication 21 April 2024 at 21:00

The world-famous playwright Lars Norén is invited to a prison for a collaboration with three long-term convicts of violent crimes. They will perform as themselves in Norén's next play 7:3.

The prison board regards theatre work as correctional care and rehabilitation. Dazzled by Norén's fame and filled with optimism on the restorative power of theatre, they stop at nothing to make the project come true. All caution is thrown to the wind. 7:3 evolves into an unstoppable process where all security concerns are pushed aside, and all control mechanisms fall away.

Lars Norén and his constant companion, theater producer Isa Stenberg, soon realise that the life stories of these young men could make for an artistic sensation. The result is a legendary theatre performance, a heated public debate, and a double murder that still, twenty years later, is an open wound in Swedish contemporary history. How was this even possible?

Pressure Point is the story of how everybody's good intentions combined with group pressure and idolisation of a genius, lead to a catastrophe that no one wants to take responsibility for. As in a Greek tragedy, it is the project's most eager advocate, producer Isa Stenberg, who gradually suspects that something terrible is about to happen. Eventually she does everything she can to stop the project. But by then it's already too late.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

VIDEO FICTION

DAVOS 1917

1917 – the First World War ravages through Europe. In contrast, Switzerland appears to be an oasis of peace. But behind the scenes, secret agents of the world powers are at work. The war is getting closer and closer and also has an impact on Davos, where the elite of the opposing parties meet in the alpine health resort. This historical spy mini-series centres around the Swiss nurse Johanna Gabathuler. After her Red Cross mission on the Western Front, she returns pregnant to her home in Davos, where her family runs the Sanatorium Cronwald. It accommodates wealthy and influential guests from all over Europe as well as injured soldiers. While still in the delivery room, her father takes Johanna's illegitimate child from her for the sake of honour. In the attempt to get her daughter Elli back, Johanna Gabathuler becomes a master spy who carries out war-critical missions while fighting for her child. As a central spy for the German secret service and thanks to her favourite patient and mentor Countess Ilse von Hausner, also a spy, Johanna develops from a woman controlled by others to a self-determined agent who will do anything to save her child. At the same time she falls for the allure of power and becomes the greatest danger to herself and her loved ones. She also falls in love with German surgeon Dr. Carl Mangold, unaware that he is working as a spy for the opposite side. What begins as a tender romance develops into a deadly game.

Competing for the award
PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Mini-Series of the Year

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DAVOS 1917

SWITZERLAND

Submitting organisation
Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen – SRF/SRG SSR

Contact
Conny Kaiser
conny.kaiser@srf.ch

Authors Adrian Illien, Thomas Hess,
Julia Penner, Michael Sauter
Directors Jan-Eric Mack,
Anca Miruna Lăzărescu, Christian Theede
Camera Tobias Dengler, Timon Schäppi
Commissioning editor Bettina Alber
Producers Ivan Madeo, Contrast Film
Production company Contrast Film
Co-producers Letterbox Filmproduktion,
Amalia Film, SRF, ARD Degeto

Title of series Davos 1917
Episode 1 of 6

Length 48 min
Original language Swiss German
Published by SRF 1
Date of publication 17 December 2023 at 20:06

24

ПЕРЕВІЗНИЦЯ
UKRAINE

IN HER CAR: TWO SISTERS

Submitting organisation
Starlight Films LLC

Contact
Varvara Boiko-Pavlyk
boiko.v@slm.ua

Author / Director Yevhen Tunick

Camera Volodymyr Ivanov

Commissioning editors

Laura Mae Harding (ZDF);

Morad Koufane, Catherine Gaucher (FTV);

Thomas Lüthi, Baptiste Planche (SRF)

Producers

Andreas Friedrich Bareiss, Dmytro Troitsky,

Anastasiia Bataieva-Dokalenko

Production company Starlight Films LLC

Co-producers GAUMONT, Starlightmedia,

ZDFneo, SRF, FTV, DR, NRK, SVT, Yle,

RÚV, The Dreaming sheep company

Title of series In Her Car
Episode 1 of 10

Length 31 min

Original language Ukrainian

Published by ZDFneo, SRF, FTV,

DR, NRK, SVT, YLE, RUV, STB

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The series is set against the backdrop of war-torn Ukraine and revolves around Lydia, a psychotherapist juggling the demands of her personal and professional lives.

As the series progresses, Lydia's car transforms into a metaphorical sanctuary as she drives across the whole of Ukraine, picking up a wide range of individuals. Each passenger brings with them a unique story, reflecting the diverse tapestry of human experiences and struggles during war times. Their tales range from heart-wrenching losses to moments of unexpected joy, painting a vivid picture of life in a conflict zone.

With each new passenger, the series delves into a myriad of personal tales: from the heartwarming reunion of two sisters to a lady reconciling with her grandson, who is heading to the army ...

These stories, rich in their diversity, showcase the unyielding spirit of humanity and the complex layers of emotions experienced during wartime. Lydia's interactions with these varied souls not only highlight her empathy but also reflect the multifaceted nature of human resilience and vulnerability in the face of adversity.

With every episode, Lydia's character is revealed in a new light, demonstrating her capacity for empathy and connection with the people she carries. Her interactions with the passengers unveil a variety of their stories, each narrative adding depth and breadth to the portrayal of war's impact on individuals.

Competing for the award

PRIX EUROPA | Best European Video Fiction Series of the Year

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office@prixeuropa.eu
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